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NOTICE TO READERS: * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Selenica Speaks at Interparliamentary Conference

AU1104215090 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 6 Apr 90 p 4

[ATA report: "Parliaments Can and Must Play a Greater Role"]

[Text] Eleni Selenica, chairman of the Albanian Parliamentary Group, spoke at the 83d Conference of the Interparliamentary Union held in Nicosia, Cyprus, and said among other things:

Mankind is today rightly concerned about certain political, economic, social, and military tendencies that are important for the present and the future. Through our commitment, she said, we parliamentarians can play an effective role in creating a favorable climate to help identify suitable ways to solve problems in the interests of peace, security, and development, and in accordance with the lofty aspirations of the peoples whom we represent.

After referring to the essential changes that took place last year in the eastern part of the European continent, the chairman of the Albanian delegation stressed that every people has the right to choose its own path of development in accordance with its aspirations and free will. In this context, the contribution of parliamentarians is very valuable. She later said that the power of the people in Albania, which was won through blood and sacrifice, will always remain with the people. Its democratic character will be further strengthened by continually deepening socialist democracy, enhancing the role of the people in the government of the country, and consistently observing legality.

The Albanian delegate went on to note that in Europe today noticeable efforts are being made to reduce the armaments and military forces and equipment deployed in the countries of Western and Eastern Europe, and that the idea of the value and usefulness of dissolving military blocs is increasingly taking root as a factor of peace and stability in our continent and beyond.

Referring to the German problem, she said that we view this issue, whose solution is sought by the German states in the West and East, from the viewpoint of the inalienable right of the German nation of self-determination to the point of unification, without ignoring the interests of other states, the international agreements connected with these interests, and the duties stemming from them. However, the steps that encourage the process of demilitarization in our continent cannot be effective if they remain partial and limited and fail to lead to the withdrawal of foreign troops from European countries and the dissolution of military blocs.

Discussing the need to further deepen the process of Balkan cooperation, the chairman of the Albanian Parliamentary group underlined that parliaments and parliamentarians can and must play a greater role. For their part, Albanian parliamentarians will be at pains to put the spirit of cooperation and understanding among Balkan countries on a sound foundation.

Among the issues preoccupying the Balkans, the Albanian delegate considered the problem of minorities, which has become more acute in recent years and has to a degree slowed and hampered bilateral relations between particular states. She expressed that minorities must be transformed from being the "Achilles' heel" of inter-Balkan relations to factors of rapprochement and friendship among Balkan peoples and countries. She said present problems can be solved only with understanding, dialogue, tact, and democratic methods. In this context, she said later, there is scope for the parliamentarians of the Balkan countries to do much more to make a more tangible and effective contribution to examining interethnic relations and pointing them in the right direction. For their part, the Albanian parliamentarians will spare no efforts in this field.

Talking about flashpoints in the Middle East, Central America, Southeast Asia, and so forth, the chairman of the Albanian delegation said dialogue and discussion are now being used by the various parties as a way of finding suitable solutions. She said it is worth mentioning the role of the United Nations and its secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar, as intermediaries in finding appropriate solutions that consider the will of the peoples and the interests of the directly implicated parties, and in avoiding intereference and solutions imposed from the outside.

In conclusion, Comrade Eleni Selenica also spoke about the world's serious economic situation and stressed that any kind of regional or global reduction of tension in the political sphere will be worth little as long as the gulf between developing countries and developed industrial countries continues to widen. She also stressed that all human rights start with the right to exist and to live as a true human being.

The deputy Stefan Papagjoni, member of the delegation of the Albanian Parliamentary Group, also took the floor and spoke on an item on the conference's agenda, "The Struggle Against Drug Trafficking."

Alia, Other Leaders Pay Homage at Hoxha's Grave

AU1104135290 Tirana ATA in English 1202 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Tirana, April 11 (ATA)—Today, on April 11, the day of the 5th anniversary of the death of the great and unforgettable leader of the party and people, the leader of the revolution and architect of new Albania, Comrade Enver Hoxha, the entire people and party honored with profound respect and gratitude, his brilliant deed and unforgettable memory.

Thousands of working people of work and production centres, institutions, veterans of war and labour, military men, members and relatives of the martyrs' families, youngsters and pioneers of Enver came to the Martyrs' Graves of the Nation today in the morning.

At 10.00 hrs there came to pay homage Comrade Ramiz Alia, first secretary of the party Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly; and Comrade Adil Carcani, member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers; the members of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee Manush Myftiu, Pali Miska, Prokop Murra, Rita Marko; the alternate members of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee Kico Mustaqi, Llambi Gegprifti and Pirro Kondi; the member of the party Central Committee and chairwoman of the General Council of the Democratic Front of Albania, Nexhmije Hoxha; the member of the party Central Committee Pilo Peristeri; members of the party Central Committee, the Presidium of the People's Assembly and of the government, working people of the apparatus of the party Central Committee, representatives of central mass organisations, leading cadres of party and power organs of the district etc. [passage omitted]

Alia Greets Bulgaria's Mladenov on Election

AU0704145090 Tirana ATA in English 0811 GMT 7 Apr 90

[Text] Tirana, April 7 (ATA)—The president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the P.S.R. [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania, Comrade Ramiz Alia, has sent the following message of greetings to the president of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Petur Mladenov:

On occasion of your election to the post of the president of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, I extend to you my greeting and the best wishes for successes in your high duty to the good and prosperity of the friendly Bulgarian people.

I wish that the relations of traditional friendship and cooperation between our two countries and peoples develop and consolidate even further in the future.

Minister Tenev Meets Genscher, Haussmann in FRG

AU1104191990 Sofia BTA in English
1701 GMT 11 Apr 90

["FRG Supports Bulgaria's Integration With World Economy"—BTA headline]

[Text] Bonn, April 11 (BTA correspondent)—Mr. Ivan Tenev, minister of economy and planning and leader of the Bulgarian delegation to the final stage of the CSCE Conference for Economic Cooperation, today had a meeting with Mr. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, vice-chancellor and minister for foreign affairs of the FRG.

He had also a meeting with Mr. Helmut Haussmann, minister of economics of the FRG.

Interviewed by the BTA correspondent, Mr. Tenev said he underlined that the FRG and the other Western countries should understand the difficulties Bulgaria is facing now. In reply he was assured that along the road to a rapid and unambiguous transition to market economy Bulgaria has embarked on, she can rely on the active support of the FRG.

The question of restructuring Bulgaria's foreign debt and deferring some of the payments was also considered. The West German side expressed the opinion that the problem could be settled but its solution should be found on a multinational basis, for which the FRG will render active assistance. Once more the Bulgarian side was assured of the support of the FRG for Bulgaria's candidature for the GATT, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund and for all initiatives aimed at Bulgaria's integration with the world economy.

Mr. Ivan Tenev had talks with his colleagues from Ireland, Belgium and Spain. According to him the ministers of these three countries—European Community members, support the processes of democratization and orientation to market economy which are under way in Bulgaria and expressed their wish for conducting more active cooperation with her.

Leader Discusses Private Producers Union

AU1104115890 Sofia SVOBODEN NAROD
in Bulgarian No. 8, 29 Mar 90 p 9

[Interview with Professor Boris Dimitrov, chairman of the "Revival" Union of Private Producers of Goods and Services, by Emil Petkov; place and date not given: "The Private Producer"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Petkov] What functions does the organization you lead fulfill in relation to the private companies?

[Dimitrov] I would first like to say that these companies are far from few in number. Combined, they cover about 300-350,000 people throughout the country, working in all the separate forms of private initiative: private or rented property on leasehold, piecework activities, and so on. Second, the private companies or owners are not protected by the state in any way because they are not part of the system of state ownership, nor are they protected by the trade unions because the trade unions protect hired workers, whereas the private producers are owners. In other words, the people protected are those employed by the private owners. Third, the private producers are not protected by the Labor Code either, because the code does not cover such a category of labor. This is why our union was formed, with the aim of providing the only, highly necessary protection for these people and their activities.

[Petkov] How do you see the part to be played by the private businessman in the process of the so-called emergence from the crisis and in the so-called privatization of the state sector of the economy?

[Dimitrov] On this issue, our union holds a view that differs from the one supported by the administration. In our opinion, the process that is proposed in one of the theses put forward is an extremely lengthy one, because it will take 10-15 years. However, we consider that at the moment we need no shock therapy. This will hurt private business for the simple reason that it will open the gates of the economy to foreign capital, against which the native producer is unable to compete. For this reason, we are for a period of transition, but it should not be very long.

We also hold our own views regarding denationalization or, as you called it, privatization of the national economy. However, we do not agree that in the course of privatization the unprofitable enterprises should be handed over to private companies, that is, enterprises that cannot be managed effectively by state forms of organization. In our opinion, this means burdening the new managers with the mistakes of the previous ones. This is not a transfusion of capital, but relieving the incapable manager of responsibility at the expense of someone whom you expect will turn out to be a better manager. Look at what they give us on lease—businesses that have shown that they have no life in them. Of course, there are cases of restaurants that were losing money but that, when transferred to another form of ownership, became highly profitable. This, however, does not alter the principle of the matter, and it is this that we are discussing. We already have specialist theoreticians who are dealing with this issue and have many interesting views about privatization. They defend viewpoints that seek approaches toward ensuring that the population of our country, the creator of our wealth, has equal rights in the distribution of this wealth. (In fact, just such a new distribution will be achieved by denationalization.) This, in my opinion, is the premise that offers the highest degree of social justice and that deserves serious attention.

Citizens Continue To Smuggle Goods to SFRY

AU1104130790 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian 5 Apr pp 1, 6

[Article by Yuriy Stefanov and Dimitur Radkov: "Panic at the Balkan Customs Posts"]

[Text] The customs officers open the bags of Kamenka Mutafova. They contain a rich "range" of goods: coffee beans, dishes, dolls, and food products. In the case of her friend Snezhana, the goods mainly consist of soap, electrical appliances and materials, and other apparatus. Both women were taken off the train because of illegal export of goods. A week ago, four women were stopped at the customs post for customs violations. Having resolved to dispose of their goods at any price, they decided to cross the border a few kilometers from Kalotina. The attempt was made at night in a mountainous area and almost ended fatally. The border guards establish that one of the women is pregnant.

Generally speaking, the customs officers' trophies consist of the same goods, but sometimes new items also appear. Recently varieties of seeds and agricultural spray solutions were seized. During the coldest weather, a certain family of four set off for Yugoslavia, dressed in the latest ski fashions. On their return the ski jackets and warm clothing of all four "disappeared" on the road. On the back seat of the car, the men in blue uniforms found two half-naked children wrapped in a blanket....

Inventiveness is a fellow traveler of contraband activities. Georgi Stoyanov of Varna concealed in the upholstery of his car 24 electrical contacts and 34 sticks of salami. Todor Grozev was arrested with enough cooking appliances to feed a whole barracks. The record is held by Khristo Bulgurov from Plovdiv, who tried to smuggle out goods valued at 2,221 leva.

Some of the traders "store" their unsold goods in the undergrowth beside the road, while others even conceal their money in the midst of nature. One observant local countrywoman "collected" about 2,500 leva for herself in a few hours.

Goods seized in their original packing on Bulgarian territory are returned to the trading network, while food products are sent for secondary processing. The Yugoslavs, for their part, use the food as free feed for their pigs or simply burn it.

Since the beginning of the year, 90 reports have been submitted to the prosecutor's office. In addition, 100 serious foreign exchange offenses have been recorded, as well as 71 serious customs violations.

Our neighboring state [the SFRY] is also reacting. Recently, the POLITIKA daily published an announcement by the federal Foreign Currency Inspectorate, which noted an increase in the numbers of foreign currency violations committed by citizens of East Europe. It was pointed out that in Dimitrovgrad 90 percent of the cases concern Bulgarians. Such offenders will receive fines of from 200 to 1,000 convertible dinars (from 100 to 500 dollars) and will be liable to legal prosecution.

We learn from unofficial information that the storekeepers in Pirot are threatening to go on strike because the Bulgarians are offering wares at one-third of their own prices. The "unofficial market" run by Bulgarians in the town has evidently shifted from its traditional location.

Similar penalties will be also imposed on us in Hungary. Our compatriots who fail to fulfill the new customs regulations will not be permitted to enter this state.

The Bulgarian customs officers also have serious complaints against the Bulgarian State Railways. They ask why standing passengers are allowed in trains to Yugoslavia, whereas under international regulations all passengers are required to have reserved seats.

The wave of illegal activities is hardly likely to be halted by moralizing statements or regulations. While the lev's value has wavered, Bulgarian salami and hard cheese have become convertible.

Labor Contract Regulations Noted

AU1004210190

[Editorial Report] Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian on 9 April on page 2 publishes the approximately 3,000-word text of the "General Regulations on Concluding Collective Labor Contracts and Agreements During 1990." This document was signed in Sofia on 5 April by the three National Commission for Coordination of Interests, Svetoslav Stavrev, Stoyan Kadiev, and Nora Ananieva, whose names and titles appear at the bottom of the published document, which is, however, dated 30 March 1990.

The document consists of a 200-word preamble, seven numbered sections including a total of 18 articles, and a 100-word "Explanations" at the end of the meanings of terms used in the document. The seven sections are as follows:

1. Subject and Field of Application.
2. Parties and Representation. This section establishes that agreements are reached between employers and workers, represented by their trade union organizations, and that "only one collective labor contract or agreement may be signed in a company, company division, enterprise, institution, or other organization."
3. Contents. In this 1,200-word section it is pointed out that agreements may cover: "employment and professional growth;" "wages, additional remunerations, and incomes;" "safe and hygienic working conditions;" "working hours, working conditions, and recreation;" "conditions for trade union activity;" and other matters.
4. Procedure for Concluding Agreement. This section states that the draft agreement is drawn up by the trade

union organization, the employer being obliged to provide all necessary information. After the draft agreement has been approved by the general (or delegate) meeting of the trade union organization, it forms the subject of negotiations with the employer; differences arising are settled under the procedures detailed in the Law on Settling Collective Labor Disputes.

5. Effect. Here it is stated that the agreement comes into force on its date of signing, and remains in force for the period stated in the agreement itself, unless "substantial changes in conditions" occur.
6. Control and Accountability for Fulfillment.
7. Disputes on Fulfillment. These are to be settled under the relevant provisions of the Labor Code.

Lukanov Meets Trade Union Leader Petkov

AU1104140690 Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian
10 Apr 90 p 1

[Valentin Suykov report: "Responsibility Between Equals"]

[Text] Unprecedented—this was the most concise and frequently used description of the general agreement signed recently between the government, the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria [CITUB], and the economic leaders. Also a first occasion, but by no means the last, was the meeting on 9 April between a government delegation led by Council of Ministers Chairman Andrey Lukanov and a CITUB delegation led by its chairman, Professor Krustyu Petkov. The delegations discussed problems that had arisen and the future fulfillment of the general agreement. After the meeting, the two leaders made statements to a TRUD representative.

"The initiative for this meeting," Krustyu Petkov stated, "appeared last week after a conversation with Andrey Lukanov. It marks the start of periodical regular meetings between us to discuss the fulfillment of the general agreement and other problems that arise. There was also a special reason for the meeting, namely the government's decision to alter the pricing of 19 types of goods and services. In our assessment, this is leading to confusion among the public and, in some places, to panic and chaos. The trade unions warned the government that urgent measures must be taken to overcome the unfavorable consequences. We discussed with our partners the measures stemming from these changes in the spirit of the general agreement. The changes in pricing must be implemented in such a way that the signed agreements are observed, and the workers should receive the necessary compensation. We agreed that three working groups should immediately be formed under the trilateral commission: a group to define the list of protected prices; a group on indexing incomes and compensation for inflation; and a group on the mechanism for protecting against unemployment and regulating employment, with priority to be given to the enterprises affected by conversion from military to civil production. Further explanations were made concerning the package of documents on the economic reform and combating the crisis, on which the Council of Ministers chairman reported to the National Assembly. Our delegation handed Comrade Lukanov specific trade union proposals on these issues. We agreed to have a second meeting in the second half of May."

In conclusion, Krustyu Petkov said that he was satisfied with the meeting. The same assessment was given by Andrey Lukanov, who agreed with what the trade union leader said and added:

"The government is fully conscious of its obligations in signing the general agreement. This is a unique step for our socioeconomic conditions, a step that should guarantee us social peace in the transition to a market economy. By this means, we are banking on alleviating the burdens of the transition and avoiding the conflicts and collisions that might arise. Bearing in mind that the government has shown some delay with regard to the first measures specified in the general agreement, we intend to make additional efforts to catch up on the deadlines, some of which elapsed on 31 March. We have been working actively on all the questions, but it proved impossible to complete the work on some of them by the end of March. During the next few days, a number of issues will be resolved—the adoption of an order on work clothing, the repeal of certain legal acts that unjustifiably and illegally restrict people's freedom to choose and change their place of work, and amendments to the taxation of additions to the wages fund. As regards the strict observance of the agreement, we place great hopes in the trilateral commission, which is starting its work. I welcome Krustyu Petkov's idea of having a further meeting in May. I hope that by then the benefit of the general agreement will be felt to a much greater extent. Concerning the issue of prices, we are trying to avoid a campaign-type approach and initiatives for their own sake. The freeing of prices must be a process that we can control and predict. We ought to do everything to avoid unjustified panic reactions when prices are mentioned, which themselves make the situation in the market more difficult. In this field, we will follow a policy of maximum glasnost. People must understand that the new prices will not be 'introduced from above' from a fixed date, but will be adjusted in accordance with economic conditions."

Labor Camp Witnesses 'Will Not Talk'

AU1104120290 Sofia BTA in English
1115 GMT 11 Apr 90

["Witnesses Are Still Afraid"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 11 (BTA)—"Witnesses from the camps in which people had been killed without verdicts, will not talk before the text which pronounced to be secret the methods of the Ministry of the Interior's bodies is not dropped from the Law on State Secrets." [sentence as received] This was the opinion of the capital city lawyer Nikolay Oresharov. He began his career as an examining magistrate at the Prosecutor's Office in the town of Pernik in 1959. He had regularly received from the "Special" Department death certificates of the Lovech camp inmates with the rather dubious diagnosis "heart failure."

Oresharov tells about his impressions and estimations in an interview in OTECHESTVEN FRONT today.

According to him people who were sent to the camps were under observation and had files. Many examining magistrates had been detained in the course of the Traycho Kostov trial. At that time the camps had been a convenient way to fight "the enemy." The KGB experience was widely used. A friend of Oresharov, who survived by a miracle, came out of the Lovech Camp with tics, persecution mania and paranoia. Oresharov had in vain tried to enter the camp. His magistrate's card did not help him either. Neither did help him the collaboration of the district prosecutor in Lovech.

He thinks that under a broad agreement, typical of the totalitarian system, the camps were most probably permitted by the Politburo of the CC [Central Committee] of the BCP [Bulgarian Communist Party]. It is not possible that the government did not know either. The camps could not remain hidden from Zhivkov and the CC Secretariat. According to Oresharov they were not closed down after the initiative of Boris Velchev, as some of the Bulgarian dailies are insisting now, but after the UN interference.

Up till now there has been talk about the camps in the period 1959-1962. But before them there have been the camps of Kutsian, Koprinka, Balchik. Oresharov thinks that the idea about the camps had perhaps burgeoned back at the time of the destruction of the opposition.

According to the map of the Bulgarian Gulag, published by today's DEMOKRATSIYA, there have been 70 socialist camps and prisons in Bulgaria.

Homeless Citizen Sets Fire to Provadiya Mosque

AU1104190990 Sofia BTA in English
1744 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Provadiya, April 11 (BTA)—One of the three mosques in the town of Provadiya caught fire early this morning. Until several days ago the premises were used as a warehouse.

The blaze was caused by a homeless senior citizen who sought refuge in an annex to the mosque and built a fire on the floor to warm himself.

An estimated 6,000 leva's worth of property was damaged. The negligent arsonist was hospitalized with slight burns.

Signatures Collected Against Aid to Muslims

AU1104191590 Sofia BTA in English
1743 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Khaskovo, April 11 (bta)—The Khaskovo Committee for the Defence of National Interests organized a collection of signatures against a document which the Government is drafting in order to settle problems of Bulgarian citizens who have repatriated from Turkey. The committee claims that with the acute economic crisis and shortage of goods, the 80 million leva allocation is ill-timed and that the beneficiaries are black-marketeers not generating any national income. The Government's move is described as socially unfair and as threatening to widen the gulf between the two communities.

Hunger Strike Participants Collect Signatures

AU1104191390 Sofia BTA in English
1742 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Khaskovo, April 11 (BTA)—The participants in the relay hunger strike, organized by the Rights and Freedoms Movement, have collected over 3,000 signatures in support of their demands for "free labour of free people in a free country". They want "the culprits for the disgraceful regenerative process to be brought to justice."

Army Reportedly Never Owned Nuclear Weapons

LD1104143190 Prague CTK in English 1345 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 11 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Army never owned nuclear weapons and no nuclear weapons are stored on the territory of the Czechoslovak Federative Republic at present, Czechoslovak Defence Minister General Miroslav Vacek told a press conference here today.

Referring to the issue of several SS-23 missiles in the arsenals of the Czechoslovak Army, Minister Vacek recalled a recent statement by Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry Spokesman Lubos Dobrovsky and said that these missiles were included in the Czechoslovak Army's weaponry still before the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty had been signed.

Asked whom the Czechoslovak Army was prepared to fight nowadays, General Vacek answered that two blocs exist in Europe at present and Czechoslovakia belongs to the Warsaw Treaty. He quoted President Vaclav Havel's statement that Czechoslovakia will honour its commitments to the Warsaw Treaty. This, according to the minister, determined the activities of the Czechoslovak Army though they will be pursued within the framework of the changed situation in Europe. General Vacek said in this context that besides fulfilling its obligations the Army will be more open towards establishing cooperation with armies of other countries including armies of NATO. The minister put emphasis on bilateral contacts.

General Vacek further said Czechoslovakia does not reject the possibility of sending its military cadres to study in Western countries but this step must be decided, apart from army officials, by the leadership of the state, adding that for the time being Czechoslovakia has not received any concrete offer.

The Czechoslovak defence minister stated that Czechoslovakia will train a military units for the needs of the United Nations. On his visit to Namibia where he led a Czechoslovak delegation at the declaration of independence ceremony, General Vacek said Czechoslovakia and Namibia could engage in advantageous cooperation in the economic sphere. Minister Vacek added that U.N. officials positively evaluated the activities of Czechoslovak soldiers within the framework of the U.N. Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) in Namibia.

On the reduction of Army equipment General Vacek said that so far 46 of the planned 51 aircraft have been destroyed, and 280 of the total of 850 tanks. He expressed discontent at the slow pace of scrapping, adding it was due to technical problems.

The minister said that by April 1, 1990, 33,000 conscripts joined the Army, with 446 of them using the possibility of alternative, civilian service. Also 700 soldiers who have served for some time in the Army decided to finish their service in civilian jobs. Civilian service lasts 27 months, in the case of graduates from military departments of universities it lasts 13.5 months. All conscripts who joined on April 1, will serve only 18 months, university students nine months. Originally military service was two years, and 12 months in the case of university students.

During the visit here by Pope John Paul II on April 21-22, the Army will offer organizers two field hospitals, 21 ambulances, 29 doctors and 90 nurses and other equipment.

Minister Vacek denied the existence of any negotiations between functionaries of the Czechoslovak Army and the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee. Referring to the parliamentary elections, General Vacek said that soldiers in military service will be able to attend pre-election gatherings of various political parties and movements and will vote outside the barracks, in contrast to the past practice.

Defense Minister on Military Spending, Deployment

LD1104213190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Report by correspondent (Jan Rejsek) on news conference by Defense Minister Colonel General Miroslav Vacek in Prague on 11 April]

[Text] The defense minister briefed almost 90 guests and journalists on further changes in the Army and the democratization process under way. All the journalists were presented for the first time with facts about the Czechoslovak Army, including interesting information which until recently was kept confidential; for example, the deployment of individual divisions and armies, and the numerical strength of the Army on 1 January this year. The information service provides information about the military medical service, the provision of equipment, the biological [biologicky] protection of airfields, and so on. Also of interest was the news about military spending—this amounts to 31.18 billion korunas, not a small sum, of course, but it includes spending not only on the Army but also on other areas connected with ensuring the defense capability of the republic.

At the news conference I was also interested in the events which have been taking place in Frenstat, because the people there not only do not want Soviet troops there, they do not want our own Army there either. The minister answered my question as follows:

[Begin Vacek recording] Of course I can see that the Army does not always contribute to the very best of atmospheres in towns and localities where it is garrisoned. No doubt, like me, you are aware of all the problems which arise from, for example, the siting of our military airfields and the activities of the Air Force. However, the malice shown by some of our people, no matter how it is justified, hurts us as soldiers, and I would say once again to the people of Frenstat pod Radhostem that for my part I will do everything to ensure that if the people do not want us there, then the Army will not be there. [end recording]

Views Army Problems, Reductions

LD0604185690

[Editorial Report] Prague Domestic Service in Czech at 1600 GMT on 5 April broadcasts a 60-minite Civic Forum program, during which CSFR National Defense Minister Miroslav Vacek answers a wide range of questions. The first round of questions is from the editorial board.

Minister Vacek admits that the Army has its share in the mistakes of the past and that the Army is not exactly popular in Czechoslovakia. He thinks this is rather understandable from the viewpoint of individual conscripts for whom national service means economic loss and family separation. Another important element in assessing the role of the Army is a widespread opinion that armies are not necessary. The Czechoslovak Army is also handicapped by a lack of high quality officers.

Asked about the possibility of forming a professional army, he says that the first prerequisite for such a change would be to decrease the Army's size, and it seems that the Vienna talks are rather successful in this regard. The second prerequisite would be to enlist enough people, and this would not be so easy, given the present reputation of the Army. The other thing to consider is that a professional Army is more expensive. At present there are only about 28 percent of career soldiers in the Czechoslovak Army, and this percentage could be gradually increased.

Listeners' questions then follow. Minister Vacek speaks about the percentage of Communists among the Army members. He says that 80 percent of officers were Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] members, and some five percent of conscripts were CPCZ members. The adoption of the amendment of the Defense Act changed the situation: All soldiers in active service have to discontinue their membership in any political parties and movements.

Minister Vacek admits that Czechoslovakia has a very high number of soldiers given the size of its population: It is even higher than in the Soviet Union, and only Bulgaria's percentage is higher than ours. A reduction is currently being discussed at the Vienna talks, and in the fall this year an agreement could be reached which would lead to a reduction of roughly 60,000 soldiers.

Asked about the purpose of the Army, given the fact that it did not fight either in 1939 or in 1968, Vacek stresses that the decision in both cases was made by the Czechoslovak leaders and not by the Army.

Minister Vacek points out that the Army political officers' average age is 34 years, and therefore they could hardly have been among the originators of the harshest post-1968 persecution.

Minister Vacek stresses that the entire leadership of the Czechoslovak Army was changed, and all high officers at the Ministry of National Defense were appointed in January or February this year.

Vacek goes on to explain that it is logical that the Army expects highly trained officers who signed a service contract and do not want to keep it and stay in the Army to pay for their discharge.

Minister Vacek admits that there is some truth in rumors about incidents during the Soviet troop withdrawal, and quotes a case when two people traveling in a Skoda car were killed in an accident involving a Soviet convoy. However, he points out that the Skoda driver was drunk and drove into the convoy. Special measures to avoid incidents are being applied by the Soviet Army. There is a special Czechoslovak administration department observing the Soviet troop withdrawal, and it involves members of the Ministry of National Defense and other ministries.

Asked why Army railwaymen are moving to the garrison vacated by the Soviet troops in Frenstat pod Radhostem, Vacek says that they are to work on rail repairs in the locality. Asked about the Army construction troops, heirs of so-called Black Barons, he says that they are going to be dissolved on 1 October this year.

Documents Reveal Data About CSFR Army

LD1104201690 Prague CTK in English 1800 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 11 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Army had a total of 198,154 members by January 1, 1990, a document called "The Czechoslovak Army—Facts" which was distributed to newsmen at a press conference with Czechoslovak Minister of Defence Lieutenant-General Miroslav Vacek here today, said.

The publication states that the ground forces of 122,442 were the strongest in number followed by the antiaircraft defence of 22,876 soldiers, the Air Force of 21,946 persons and bodies of central subordination, like military schools, reconnaissance, signalmen of 16,120 persons. Commanding bodies, general staff, main administrative bodies of the Defence Ministry had 2,913 employees. All figures are related to January 1, 1990.

According to the document the Czechoslovak Army is divided into two miliary zones—the western in the Czech Republic and the eastern in the Slovak Republic. The western military zone consists of two armies of eight divisions. The first one is based in Pribram, central Bohemia and its four divisions are deployed in the towns of Slany, central Bohemia,—the 1st Tank Division, Susice, west Bohemia,—the 2nd Motorized Infantry Division, Plzen, west Bohemia,—the 19th Motorized Infantry Division, Karlovy vary, west Bohemia,—the 20th Motorized Infantry Division.

The other army described as the "4th Army" has its command in Pisek, south Bohemia, and its four divisions are deployed in the towns of Havlickuv Brod, east Bohemia,—the 4th Tank Division, Tabor, south Bohemia,—the 9th Tank Division, Kromeriz, south Moravia,—the 3rd Motorized Infantry Division and Ceske Budejovice, south Bohemia,—the 15th Motorized Infantry Division.

The eastern military zone is based in Trencin, west Slovakia, and consists of two divisions. The first one, the 13th Tank Division is deployed in topolcany, west Slovakia, the other, the 14th Tank Division in Presov, east Slovakia. Both these divisions serve for noncommissioned officers' training.

The publication further points out that military expenditure in Czechoslovakia amount to 31,180 million crowns this year (1,834,117,600 U.S. dollars). A total of 51.6 per cent of the structure of the national defence budget for 1990 are earmarked for material and technical purposes. 60 per cent of this sum are spent on civilian material, spare parts and training aids, 21 per cent on military technology and the rest on the ammunition.

A total of 26.9 per cent of the ministry's budget are earmarked for unspecified purposes, 18.06 per cent for wages and 2.9 per cent for capital construction.

Production, Export Figures for SEMTEX

AU1104094590 Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech 6 Apr 90 p 8

[CTK report: "News Conference's Explosive Issue"]

[Text] On the agenda of the news conference held at the Synthesia Chemical Works in East Bohemia was the abuse of the SEMTEX plastic explosive by terrorists. Exports of this explosive to territories with convertible currencies ended in 1981. Exports to other territories ended in 1989. The highest annual production of this explosive was 350 tonnes. The annual average Czechoslovak consumption is 120 tonnes. Contractual deliveries to Warsaw Pact countries amounted to about 30 tonnes per annum. P. Mostak, Industrial Chemistry Research Institute explosive specialist, said—among other things—to journalists: "We have been aware of the abuse ot the explosive since the second half of the 1980's, especially by terrorists in Northern Ireland, but there is no proof yet that our explosive was used in Lockerbie. This is why I do not consider focusing on one kind of explosive to be appropriate."

Civic Forum Official Finds Listening Device

LD1104203490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1930 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] According to an announcement from the press department of the Civic Forum Coordinating Center, staff of the Ministry of Interior Office for the Protection of the Constitution today dismantled a listening device in the apartment of Jan Urban, a representative of the coordinating center. Two sound sensors adapted to be controlled by transmitters were found under the plaster. The instruments are sealed until the prosecutor decides on the possible institution of criminal proceedings in connection with the planting and use of the equipment. This happened because Jan Urban served notice of his intention to lodge a complaint against persons unknown.

Official on Antidissident Security Operation

AU1104090390 Prague ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY in Czech 5 Apr 90 p 2

[Report on interview with Zdenek Formanek, director of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution and Democracy, by Jan Subert; place and date not given—"Civic Forum, Beware of Disinformation!"]

[Text] Did Brno's Civic Forum dispute have any connection with the recently revealed operation "Wedge?" We have already asked this question in our newspaper. The public also asks this question frequently. We asked Zdenek Formanek, head of the new Czechoslovak Secret Service and director of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution and Democracy, to dispel or to confirm these fears.

[Formanek] Of course, it is impossible to entirely eliminate this possibility, but I personally do not believe it too much. It does not seem probable that the former State Security would deliberately have provoked the dispute within Brno's Civic Forum. It is incorrect to simplify the causes behind such events and to see the State Security service at the back of each dispute.

[Subert] Much has been said and written about operation "Wedge." The official statement was terse, however. Could you elaborate?

[Formanek] To be brief, action "Wedge" was an operative measure by which the former State Security intended to erode the dissident movement. Discord was intended to be introduced into the dissident movement by various channels—infiltration, leaflets, disinformation, and so on. Some of these intentions were almost a genuine provocation.

[Subert] Are there any pertinent documents available?

[Formanek] Unfortunately, all the materials able to prove guilt have been destroyed. It is possible to make only a partial reconstruction based on the testimony of some people and on some indirect documents.

[Subert] With some degree of certainty, however, rough outlines of various actions can be drawn nevertheless....

[Formanek] Yes, one of the schemes would be, for example, to misuse some young man's radicalism against an older, more prudent, and more cautious colleague.

[Subert] Jan Urban, Civic Forum Coordinating Center member, spoke, in this connection, about M. Kralka who worked theoretically on operation "Wedge" three years ago. This fact has also been confirmed by an interior ministry spokesman. He said that Mr. Kralka is unaccounted for and that computer disks containing operation models have disappeared along with him . Later it became apparent that this information was false. Yet, the Civic Forum representative had no reasons to invent things...

[Formanek] The problem lies elsewhere. Among former members of the abolished State Security there are many who—with good or bad intentions—provide various information to Civic Forum. Some information is sometimes unwanted and other times it is distorted and its contents are not, therefore, precise. Very often, half-truths and disinformation are easily spread within the Civic Forum. Let us put it this way—it is necessary to be very careful when presenting those reports to the public.

[Subert] Is operation "Wedge" a closed affair for you or is it something on which the Office for the Protection of the Constitution and Democracy is still working?

[Formanek] We are still investigating some circumstances, but it would be premature to talk about it now.

Czech, Slovak Governments Join Nationwide Strike

LD1104120490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1100 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Excerpts] As a result of the call by the Civic Forum committee at the CDK semiconductors plant in Prague, a demonstrative general strike took place throughout the entire republic today from 1150 until noon.

Hundreds of work collectives and individuals spontaneously aligned themselves with the central idea, that is, demands for the settlement of property and legal affairs between the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the government of national understanding. [passage omitted]

The government of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic also joined the strike by interrupting their talks at the Lnare Castle in Strakonice area, and it was also supported by the chancellery of the president of the republic.

Czech, Slovak Governments Joint Statement

LD1104200990 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] For the first time in 20 years the governments of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic met for a joint working meeting at Lnare Castle in the Strakonice area. At the close they issued a joint statement praising the historic importance of the meeting and above all the fact that both governments are meeting at this level for the first time and that their meeting once again confirms the need and will of both nations to cooperate respecting the identity of both national entities.

The open and factual discussion on all important problems led to overcoming all conflicts with fundamental approaches. Both governments agreed that the basic principle of the coexistance of our nations is the primary nature, specific identity, and integrity of the national republics. In the spirit of this principle the governments decided to work out a proposal of principles for the federative state system and to put it before the public before the June elections.

The discussion among participants of the meeting confirmed that the problems that appear as conflicts between both nations are in reality the consequence and remnant of the centralist, comand and beaurocratic system.

The joint statement of the governments of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic also state that the development of democracy and a market economy linked with strengthening the widest possible self- management of not only republics but also villages requires marked changes. The governments of both republics are led to these changes through consideration of the necessary economic and social development, the productivity of the economy, and the gradual improvement in ecological conditions. In the future, conflicts on the redistribution of values should give way to care for the optimum ways of not encountering them and should be at the center of attention. The governments entirely agreed that the use of created resources will be within the competence of each of the republics. The competence and the justified needs of the Federation will depend on the will of both nations and their legislative and government representative bodies.

In this spirit, both governments agreed on draft principles of budget rules for 1991 and subsequent years, which they intend to put forward to their legislative bodies. At the same time this should put an end to the question of who subsidizes whom? Both governments express the conviction that the new relations will lead to an entirely new motivation for the economic and political behavior of the citizens of both republics. Bearing in mind the vital integrity of each of the national economies, both governments will not lose sight of the interest in a real integration of the economy of our joint state.

The joint statement of the governments of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic also emphasizes that the primary nature of the republics and the Federation which derives from this means that the future new federal constitution should be derived from the constitutions of both republics. The present state legal system does not fully respect the authentic principles of the federation.

The governments welcomed the proposal on the initiative of a group of deputies for the change in the name of the state—the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic

[Ceska a slovenska federativni republika]. The governments of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic at the same time express the conviction that the factual nature and mutual understanding which accompanied their joint meeting will also be reflected in the life of individual republics, regions, towns and villages. An appeal for understanding the coexistance of both nations should begin a new era in the joint future.

The mutural agreement between representatives of our national entities is the logical continuation of the process begun on 17 November last year. The importance and benefit of the joint meeting of the governments of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic was also confirmed by an agreement on another joint meeting, which will take place before the legislative elections.

Czech, Slovak Premiers on Joint Session

LD1104202690 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 11 Apr 90

["Excerpts" of interview with Czech Pemier Petr Pithart and Slovak Premier Milan Cic by correspondent Vaclav Klement following the joint working session of the Czech and Slovak Republics' governments in Lnare Castle on 11 April—recorded; Cic speaks in Slovak]

[Text] [Klement] This was the first time in 22 years that the two national governments have met for a joint session, and this is thus the beginning of a new tradition. What was your reason for this method of mutual cooperation?

[Pithart] Above all, we have come realize that the valid constitution does not provide for contacts of this kind in which the problems that can arise between the Czech and Slovak representations can be resolved in one single political arena—which does not now exist—and that the need for coordination and a consensus is for that reason all the more pressing. We did something which the constitution does not provide for, but after a few hours we were sure that this was an absolutely necessary step, and that not only were we not sorry, but we were very glad that we have been able to talk together here for almost two days.

[Klement] The program for joint deliberations between the two governments was not specified in advance. Does this mean that the deliberations were about problems which are still unresolved?

[Cic] You could say that. Although we did not specify the program, Premier Pithart and I both knew very well that we would address problems that were unresolved and where we felt that mutual cooperation is truly essential. Regarding your first question I would like to say that we consider it quite natural and normal for the representatives of the Czech and Slovak nations to meet as people, just as neighbors meet, in order to exlain things to one another and to be able to speak publicly in, I would say, a very positive way on issues which sometimes seem taboo, or to interpret them in a way which genuinely corresponds to the objective truth. So our program was very full, I would say. We worked late into the evening, and the issues we dealt with were genuinely the ones which have priority—for example, the problem of the creation and distribution of national income, and specifically the problem of nonbudgetary regulations. By their very nature, these give rise to certain standpoints, standpoints of principle, which should be expressed in the new constitutions of the republics, because this is really a matter of a totally new approach to the status of the national republics in the federation.

[Klement] Did you agree on all the issues, Mr. Premier?

[Pithart] Probably not all the listeners will believe me, but we did agree, despite the fact that right at the beginning we ribbed one another about our resolve not to avoid even the most sensitive and burning questions. It was a risky step, because we also discussed problems of the past, which are still kept in the dark, and we could not make assumptions about whether we would agree or not. After a few hours it became clear that not only would we agree, but that we would agree on very specific common approaches. It turns out that there are no problems which the Czechs and Slovaks, if they can gather around a table with one another, cannot reach agreement on.

Trade Union Official on Government Talks

LD0904044790 Prague Television Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 8 Apr 90

[Interview with Igor Pleskot, Czechoslovak Trade Union Confederation president, by unidentified correspondent at Prague Television studio on 8 April—recorded; Pleskot in Czech]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] Representatives of our trade unions attended today's meeting of the federal government. Allow me to welcome in our studio Mr. Igor Pleskot, president of the Czechoslovak Trade Union Confederation. What was the result of your meeting today?

[Pleskot] Allow me to start by telling you why we consider talks important. Trade union associations of all three confederations, the Czechoslovak Trade Union Confederation, the Independent Slovak Trade Unions and the Confedertion of Art and Culture, have been concerned for some time by the method of drafting of new bills. [passage omitted] The dissatisfaction was made worse by the fact that the draft bill on associations had not been submitted to trade unions in time for them to make their comments on them but, at the time, when it was already being approved by the Federal Assembly. Further, the explanation of the duty to register for trade union associations, which is contained in this bill, can even be in variance with international treaties. Despite this, the bill has been approved, despite objections from trade union confederations. This is why at a general council session, representatives of all three trade union confederations declared a strike alert, saying that if the issues are not explained there would be a general strike on 18 April. We stress, however, that all trade union confederations view the government of national understanding as their government and do not at all intend to make its work more difficult and to head for a confrontation. [passage omitted]

On Tuesday, 10 April, Premier Calfa and representatives of confederations will attend the second part of the Slovak Trade Union Congress; there will be a further meeting between the government and trade unions. We hope we will be able to clarify misunderstandings between the government and trade unions and will create prerequisites for smooth cooperation. We will, of course, immediately brief members of trade union associations and the public on the results of the talks.

Further on Slovak Trade Union Congress

LD1004143790 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1030 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] The first Slovak all-trade union congress is continuing in the Great Hall of the Bratislava House of the Trade Unions. At the congress, the working presidium issued a draft addendum to the policy statement of the Confederation of Trade Unions of the Slovak Republic; the delegates assessed the draft addendum as lacking specificity, and did not adopt this abridged version. However, they approved by an absolute majority vote the text of the original draft published in the press. They also proposed that their comments be incorporated into the draft, especially on reducing the working hours of mothers with children, and on the problems of people with impaired health.

In their standpoint on a letter from staff in trade union cultural facilities in Slovakia, the delegates stressed that the further funding of arts activities is a matter for the primary organization of individual trade unions.

Calfa, Slovak TU Officials Confer

LD1004205890 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] After the end of the first Slovak trade unions congress, Federal Premier Marian Calfa and Petr Miller, minister of labor and social affairs, had talks with representatives of trade union confederations. They agreed that a legislative group of Czechoslovak trade union confederations would propose changes in the wording of those sections of the law on association, which led to the announcement of the trade unions' strike alert.

The government of national understanding is open to all forms of talks with representatives of trade unions. Specific procedures and principles were also agreed upon.

The joint session of the federal government and representatives of the Czechoslovak confederation will take place every six months. Chairmen of individual trade unions and respective ministers will meet once a month. Premier Calfa is not interested in making these meetings formal but would like to adapt them to the needs of the times.

Calfa Addresses Slovak TU Congress

LD1004220490 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1655 GMT 10 Apr 90

["Edited version" of speech by Premier Marian Calfa at the first Slovak trade union congress in Bratislava on 10 April—recorded]

[Text] Several questions have been voiced. Some of them are more difficult to answer than others. I will not answer them in the sequence in which they were asked, but I will answer them in accordance to their salience. The call to resolve the relationship between the government, or governmental body, and the trade unions is the most urgent one.

Well, I admit this is a complex issue, but the fact that there is no cooperation at an appropriate level surprised me. My personal work did not focus on it because I thought that it simply functioned. This is why I was especially surprised, especially surprised indeed, because the trade unions' leadership did not send any signals to me personally that there was something amiss in the cooperation between central bodies of state authority and the trade unions, individual trade union confederations—simply with trade union representatives. Then a demand for cooperation underscored with the threat of a general strike appeared out of the blue. A general strike is a very grave matter. It is, so to speak, the ultimate action at a trade union's disposal for demanding their rights.

We reached an agreement immediately on the spot, and we would have agreed even without the threat of a general strike if these questions had been raised, if it had been said that these were contentious issues and that they should be discussed and tackled. A representative of the confederation will be a member of the Legislative Council and will be its equal member. For this we need a government decision. We are drawing up a government decision and when we obtain a representative of the confederation—and perhaps they have already appointed somebody—we will deal with the matter.

Dr. Carnogursky is the chairman of the Legislative Council, and I asked him to conclude an agreement that trade union representatives be included in all working commissions of the Legislative Council. There is no reason for them not to be there. So that as far as cooperation at the government level in drafting laws and other measures is concerned, is the way it was dealt with. As far as the discussion of documents other than laws is concerned, I asked that a trade union representative take part in the government sessions. All reports received by the government will be given to his disposal. He will have an opportunity to discuss them in trade union organizations, to draft a standpoint, and to present this standpoint at the government's session, or to present it beforehand.

Third, I asked all government members, when drafting documents, to cooperate with a respective trade union or confederation, if a broader problem is in question. Thus, we resolved this situation which I perceive as perhaps a great misunderstanding, in a matter of three, four, or five minutes.

And as far as the unfortunate law [on association] is concerned, there is no need to go on talking about this topic. It was not done intentionally. It was perhaps a matter of a lack of understanding or a misunderstanding when it was being drafting by the Legislative Council. In any case, please do not suspect us of bad intentions. We had no idea that there was an error of this kind in the legislation. But it is no problem to deal with it. After all, a trade union group of Federal Assembly deputies is able to submit a proposal to amend this law virtually every day, and it will be changed. So in my view there is no need to hold long discussions on this topic. We can see what the situation is like. The point is that the proposal should be submitted and pressure should be exerted so that the law will be discussed and changed. [applause] It will not be the first law which is changed and definitely not the last one.

I will not respond to the question about Gabcikovo. My view is identical. [applause] I can say that people form Sturovo sent me a petition with 500 signatures saying that it should not be built, that it is a Stalininst monument, and so on. Well, Austria built seven Stalinist monuments like this one on the Danube. [applause]

No electric power is ecologically cleaner. The fact is that this is an exceptionally costly project, which, indeed costs 14 billion korunas [kcs]. We need just less than 2 billion to complete it. The point is that we should not waste 14 billion if we do not know how it will function. But we will complete and put it on stream. If it is really bad then the people will perhaps pardon us for the 2 billion when we have tested the functioning of the 14 billion, because 14 is a lot of money. This is the first point. The second point is—and I have said it on more than one occasion—the moment we obtain Gabcikovo output we will stop Novaky [thermal power station] as it stands. This will resolve the situation in the upper reaches of the Nitra River.

I would like to say that in this direction the government will concern itself with the conception of the whole energy area in May, and we will publish these things. We will not be approving it, that will not be the working method. We will approve it as the government, and we will put it to an extensive discussion. The definitive approach will be approved by our parliament so that it is truly a conception behind which all the people will stand, and then we will act accordingly. We should not like to be attacked as unqualified, or inhuman, or as people who do not take into account the standpoints of various groups of inhabitants or inhabitants from some areas. We are in a situation in which no one anywhere wants to build anything.

I was in Temelin, where I met with citizens from the surrounding area who unequivocally rejected Temelin. I was in Karvina, where I met with citizens from the surrounding area. They unequivocally reject the coking plant. I was in the nickel works in Sered just recently. Representatives from the town of Sered were there. They do not want the nickel works in Sered.

So this brings me to the first question, what to do with the economy and with the huge internal debt, and so on. During one conversation I said that our economy reminds me of such a huge tangled ball of string, so that if you pull on one piece of string two hundred others come out as well. We have a certain idea of how to deal with this, in any case not with directive decisions. We want to allow the economy to have an influence; this is the basic philosophy.

As far as the special [arms] production is concerned, it is a question which concerns me, twice as much because it affects a huge number of enterprises, in particular in the Slovak area, in the Vah area and in some other areas, and in particular because these are enterprises in which there are highly qualified workers who for many years earned for all of us, because their products sold very well and made high profits regardless of what they were for. The information that we are stopping the special production is not correct.

The special production will continue in Czechoslovakia. The important thing is which special products will not be produced. So I would like to tell you that Czechoslovakia will not continue to produce products which are exceptionally demanding on material. These are products of the heavy industry, to put it simply, tanks, and those huge boxes of iron, of high-quality iron which rust slowly and we hope to God that we will never have to use them. [applause] We have actually adopted a decision, this decision will be realized during the course of this year, that these types of this kind of production will be removed from our production program. Remaining in our production programs are other types, that is aviation technology, hand weapons and so on. I do not want to go into detail here, and there is no reason at all to stop this.

As far as transport fairs are concerned, up to now our passenger transport is paid for by freight transport. Passenger transport incurs losses in Czechoslovakia. We have 17 types of reduced fares on passenger transport. Under the influence of various things the volume of freight transport is being reduced and thus the income from it is also being reduced. In that instant passenger transport begins to incur a loss to the extent of about Kcs 800 million. So the question arises, where to get these Kcs 800 million. We will do this in certain stages and the fares are not in the first stages. Naturally one way is to look at why transport costs what it does, to look for various ways of saving within transport. But according to what we are told by the transport people, those Kcs 800 million simply cannot be made up in this way.

We are also thinking in another direction. In our country the social conditions which we have created by those 17 types of reductions are in fact considerable. The point is not to do away with those reductions but to evaluate whether the enterprises which employ the workers can not share the expense. In other words so that an enterprise does not employ workers from the other end of the republic, a worker who is more expensive than one who lives in the area. [applause]

I agree that women should be given their rightful position. In the government we have one woman. After many years we put her there. Today when we were in the Sered nickel works there was a gathering there of about 25 people and not a single woman was present. So we said we would not start talking until there was a somen's representative from the enterprise there, because there were a lot of them there. So she came as a result of our wish. [applause] So we have the same view on these things. [applause]

Calfa on Problems in Relations With Trade Unions

LD1104082390 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1630 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Interview with Premier Marian Calfa by radio editor Magda Pospisilova; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Pospisilova] Last week a certain misunderstanding occurred between the leadership of trade unions, between the confederation and the government. You said today that modern trade unions do not seek conflict situations at all costs. Do you think that the situation was somewhat mitigated today by virtue of your presence, or when can we expect that the cooperation will be as you and the trade unions imagine it should be?

[Calfa] I have a good feeling about today's session. People were eager and curious; they asked questions, I replied, and they reacted to my replies. I have the impression that both sides have gained something; I am sure about that. But while the questions also create problems which conceal concrete troubles, each question also helps, in a certain way, toward decisionmaking; that is first. Second, this afternoon we have a session with the presidium of the Confederation of Trade Unions, and we will have talks about certain topics of mutual cooperation. So, I can answer your second question in greater detail only after this session. In any case, I think the following: I think that if this government has credibility, there is no reason to give it an ultimatum; I think that it is necessary to sit at a roundtable and try to explain our standpoints, to document them. We will understand the trade unions; maybe the trade unions will understand us. We are all tackling the situation—15.5 million of our people—and nobody has a reason not to solve it in any other way but for the benefit of our people. We were surprised that the requirement that we have talks together, that we confront each other's standpoints together, that this very demand is supported by a general strike. If we have talks together and did not agree on anything, and if trade unions had the impresssion that what we did not agree about represents an attack of the government on the mission of our working people, that would be a different thing. But, in fact, to threaten a strike merely because no form of cooperation has been found, or, so to speak, since what is involved is only organization of joint work, we see this as a little bit unfair toward us and that is why we have reacted in this way.

[Pospisilova] They think here that your presence at the Slovak trade unionists' deliberations has certainly helped, that it explains many misunderstandings and many doubts that the trade unionists had. However, there has been criticism of the work of your ministers. The applause of those present has confirmed that you have calmed them down somewhat by your replies, but they criticized the fact that you attend these meetings for the most part on your own and that ministers do not go to meet people very often.

[Calfa] Regarding this point, I have already said that I will see to it. If I find that ministers do not cooperate with their trade unions, they should come to me and I will try to talk to that minister.

Trade Union Congress Elects Chairman

LD1104052490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1800 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] The deliberations of the first Slovak all-union Congress of Trade Unions ended in Bratislava today [10 April] with the adoption of a resolution. Roman Kovac was elected chairman of the assembly, the executive organ of the Confederation of Trade Unions of the Slovak Republic.

Following the address by Federal Premier Marian Calfa, those present discussed a statement by the congress delegates addressed to the government. The statement expresses their views on the Law of Association, which was adopted by the Federal Assembly. They stressed that its text is unacceptable to trade unions and is in contradiction with the international convention ratified by Czechoslovakia. Marian Calfa replied to delegates' questions in a lengthy discussion during which an informal atmosphere of a roundtable was formed. He talked not only about the trade unions' work but also about a broad sphere of problems of economy, about social questions, and about the government policy on price increases.

New Slovak TU Body Said To Be CP-Dominated

AU1004210390

[Editorial Report] Bratislava VEREJNOST in Slovak on 3 April on page 5 carries a 2,300-word article by Ludo Zeman and Juro Hrabko entitled "Trade Unions in

Search of Their Identity." In their article, the authors raise the question of whether the "Independent Slovak Trade Unions," formed at the Slovak trade union congress in March, really are "independent" and "above party affairs" as their leaders claim.

Zeman and Hrabko say that, as members of the Forum of the Coordinating Committees of the Working People of Slovakia, they took an active part in the preparation of the Slovak All-Trade Union Congress. Now that the congress is over, however, they have the impression that the forum's efforts have been "wasted." This is because "many representatives of the old structures of the totalitarian system" occupy "key positions" in the Independent Slovak Trade Unions [NSO] which emerged from the congress. As the authors point out, 10 out of 22 members of the NSO Assembly—including deputy chairmen Pavol Jakubik and Tatiana Jakubcova and executive secretary Cyril Strelecky—are communists, many of them "former lackeys of the totalitarian system." The authors voice the suspicion that the communist members of the NSO Assembly are not concerned so much with defending workers' interests and social guarantees as with perpetuating the Communist Party's influence and positions.

Assembly, Council Leaders Approve New Name

LD1004215490 Prague CTK in English 2028 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 10 (CTK)—The Presidiums of the Federal Assembly, the Czech and the Slovak National Councils discussed a constitutional bill at their joint meeting here today concerning the change of the name of the republic.

They came to the conclusion that the present name of the state is not convenient and recommended to change it. They agreed that the changed name put forward by a group of deputies "The Czech and Slovak Federative Republic" is acceptable.

During the forthcoming session of the Federal Assembly, the Czech National Council and the Slovak National Council, the Presidiums of these bodies will support this change in the name so that it can be discussed in a constitutional way at the 27th joint meeting of the House of the People and the House of Nations of the Federal Assembly.

CPCZ Central Committee Third Session

AU0904191790 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 26 Mar 90 pp 1, 2

[Vlastimil Bradac, Vaclav Pergl, and Igor Sirota report: "Without Confrontation and in a Constructive and Proper Manner"]

[Text] Prague (From our own correspondents)—The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] Central Committee held its third session in Prague yesterday. At the start of his speech, Vasil Mohorita, CPCZ Central Committee first secretary, dealt with the CPCZ's current situation and tasks for the very near future. He said, among other things, that the district conferences which are currently being held confirm that the overwhelming majority of decent people—those who had not joined the party because of careerism, but because of their will to help the development of our society from within the party's ranks—are still party members.

Most of them are in favor of the reforms and support them; they are discussing what role the Communist Party should adopt in our new society and what the party should look like. The opinion expressed most often is that CPCZ policy should continue to be nonconfrontational, respectable, and decent. (V. Mohorita's entire speech is published inside the paper).

CPCZ Central Committee Commission Report

Vaclav Habart gave a briefing on the draft CPCZ Central Committee final report, which evaluates political responsibility for the crisis development in the party and in society. The commission has met six times since it was established. The third session recommended that Bohuslav Chnoupek and Vratislav Vajnar should be expelled from the party. The CPCZ Central Committee approved this recommendation.

During its sessions and by studying its documents, the commission reached the conclusion that the former CPCZ leadership is directly responsible for the fact that, during the so-called consolidation period, scores were settled with those people who had taken an active part in the revival process after the CPCZ Central Committee session in January 1968, and that by accepting the "Lessons from Crisis Development in the Party and in Society After the 13th CPCZ Congress" and the "Resolution Regarding Actual Questions of Party Unity," the party's democratic life was paralyzed, the unshakable position of a small group in the party leadership was established, and reaction to restructuring in the USSR was late and inefficient. The conclusions reached at the seventh and ninth CPCZ Central Committee sessions were implemented, the difference between words and reality widened, and criticism was rejected. Because of personal ambitions, small groups were established which were only governed by personal interests. This led, as a consequence, to suppressing manifestations of discontent, to a split between the leadership and members, and to the illegal abuse of power, which culminated on 17 November 1989. The group surrounding Vasil Bilak, former CPCZ Central Committee secretary, was the most reactionary one.

The CPCZ Central Committee commission established to assess political responsibility for the crisis development in the party and in society was driven by efforts to contribute toward purging the party of those officials who bear direct political responsibility for the deep crisis in the party and in society. Based on the available documents, the commission made efforts to objectively determine the responsibility of individuals. The commission believes that it has fulfilled the political task given to it by the extraordinary congress.

The CPCZ Election Program Will Be Made More Accurate

Zdenek Masopust gave a briefing about the CPCZ's course of action prior to the elections to supreme bodies, which are to be held on 8 and 9 June.

The CPCZ election program, as he said, has given rise to a lively discussion in RUDE PRAVO, as well as in party organizations and in working collectives. A positive response prevails. Particularly appreciated is the brevity and clarity with which it explains the party's pros and cons. However, based on suggestions, it is important to specify in particular those sections regarding the education system, youth, women, and some others. The final shape of the election program should be approved at the CPCZ Central Committee session in April. By the end of March, the district committees, primary organizations, and CPCZ candidates will obtain a more expansive version of the election program, which is already under preparation.

The district conferences have already mostly agreed on who will represent the party in the elections. It arose that the party has new personalities. The number of women, young people, and cultural and sporting personalities among the delegates is, however, rather low. The regional electoral commissions preparing the lists of candidates will meet next week. The final decision will be made by the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia constituent congress and the Communist Party of Slovakia Central Committee. The regional and district electoral headquarters have begun their work.

Zdenek Masopust closed his speech with a remark that "one could say, the Czechoslovak Communist Party's preparations are progressing according to plan." He recommended that the fourth session of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia Central Committee also decide on the party's specific tasks during the election campaign.

A Critical and Stimulating Discussion

During the discussion, which followed the main reports, Blanka Robejskova (Prague 4) expressed her concern, for instance, that the party could become an asylum for officials struggling for their own self-preservation rather than for a modern form for the party. Ivan Sadlon (Trencin) said: "Every member of the party, every organization, and all clubs must learn to work independently and to utilize local conditions. This also requires personal courage from each of us. Stanislav Fischer (Prague-East) and Mojmir Klein (Blansko) recommended that as much data as possible be published on the party's economy and property. This would prevent disparate guessing. Further, they proposed utilizing some party buildings for purposes such as, for instance, developing leftist parties' youth foreign exchange programs.

"The attacks on the party and individual Communists are gaining in force, and therefore, our assignment is to convince the public by our daily work that party members are honest workers and not careerists longing for the reestablishment of the totalitarian system," said Eva Hralova (Nove Zamky). Josef Kasuba, political spokesman for the Democratic Forum of Communists, gave a report on the district conferences which demonstrates that several currents of thought are crystallizing in the party. It is disconcerting that attempts are being made in some places to set the Democratic Forum of Communists against older Communists. The older members of the party themselves, however, often wish to conduct a dialogue with the Democratic Forum of Communists. Delegates from the Democratic Forum of Communists will attend the constituent congress of the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia with a constructive program—for the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia to become the model for the entire modern Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

The information provided by RUDE PRAVO and other dailies is not sufficient. "The possibility of providing information through the CPCZ district committees and by other means must be considered," said Vladimir Kratochvil (Decin). The publication of a new party magazine—it was said—is a step in this direction. Moreover, the CPCZ press service distributes its bulletin to all district committees. Petr Novotny (Prague 1) mentioned, inter alia, the 1 May celebrations being prepared in the capital. Milan Machacek (Jihlava) stated that ecological demands should not be forgotten in the preparation of new economic laws. They should be embodied in them and prevent, for instance, foreign companies operating in Czechoslovakia from importing technical equipment which would damage the environment. Stanislav Drapal (Usti nad Labem) pointed out that even the present Central Committee must not be content with its work because, during its meetings, it still is not always able to deal with truly principal and strategic problems. Further, he said, we cannot assume that the CPCZ has already purged itself and discarded the past by expelling several officials.

Peter Weiss, chairman of the Communist Party of Slovakia Central Committee Executive Committee, dealt with the political situation in Slovakia. Political culture is on the decline, while anticommunism is gaining in strength. Social development is marked by the artificial instigation of nationalist problems. The most important assignments for the CPCZ at present are, according to him, finding a new ideological identity, bringing new personalities to prominence in the elections, concentrating party work on social problems, and systematically attempting to gain the public's trust.

"Although the party did not disintegrate, our adversaries are seeking a way to achieve this. Our own division of members into old and young, apparatchiks etc. aids our rivals," Jan Milas (Prerov) said. It is necessary to act in such a way as to solve all sincere members in work that requires courage and independence.

Ondrej Saling, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, presented a report on the position taken by the CPCZ Central Committee Executive Committee regarding the recently adopted law, according to which, active military service is incompatible with political party membership and any activity in them. Soldiers on active duty will submit their CPCZ membership cards to district committees where they will be kept. Drafted soldiers will leave their cards at home and, upon their return to civilian life, they will report to the appropriate CPCZ company organization. An identical process is applicable when soldiers are drafted for military duty.

Daniel Chamrad (Prague 8) criticized the insufficient standard of information supplied to CPCZ Central Committee members. His topic was developed by Ivan Petruzela (Prague 6) who said that the apparatus, in some cases, again appropriates the rights of an executive body.

Frantisek Adamek, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, delivered a CPCZ Central Committee statement on the party's property.

I am not a hasty optimist, said Ladislav Adamec, CPCZ chairman. A lot of honest work, however, has been delivered in the past three months. Speaking of the internal organization of work in the apparatus, he said that organs exist for the membership and that they subject their activity to this fact.

Vasil Mohorita, CPCZ Central Committee first secretary, responded to some questions. He explained that members of the former People's Militia are not bound by any promise of silence. Further, he stated that the deputies-communists of the Federal Assembly, Czech National Council, and Slovak National Council will, after deduction of all expenses, pay the remainder of their deputies' income to the party's electoral fund. He himself pays his "deputy's income" to the CPCZ.

28 Independent Candidates on CPCZ's List

AU1204104790 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 10 Apr 90 pp 1,2

[Vaclav Pergl report: "The CPCZ's Candidate List Has Been Submitted for Registration"]

[Excerpt] Prague (from our own correspondent)—A nationwide consultative meeting involving the chairmen of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia's [CPCZ] district committees was held in the CPCZ Central Committee building on Monday [9 April]. The meeting was devoted to the situation in the party prior to entry into the electoral period.

In his introductory speech, Vasil Mohorita, CPCZ Central Committee first secretary, said, among other things, that the party is becoming more stable and it is assumed that it could play an important role on the current political scene. When he spoke about the elections, he emphasized that the party has already registered its candidates for the deputies' seats in the Federal Assembly and the Czech National Council. Among them are 28 people without political connections. However, it is necessary to help each of them so that he is capable of giving qualified answers to the voters' questions and so that he can visit as many places as possible in the electoral district.

V. Mohorita devoted part of his speech to purely internal policy issues. For example, he stated that the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia's [CPBM] activity will be guaranteed until the elections by the CPCZ Central Committee apparatus. After the elections, a new CPBM Central Committee apparatus will be established; however, it will be made up of the existing CPCZ Central Committee apparatus. This will not involve its expansion. Soon the CPCZ's draft organizational regulations will be published. In them, among other things, the party will definitively part ways with democratic centralism. The document corresponds to the structure of a party that is striving for democratic socialism.

The 1 May celebrations were also discussed at the meeting. Communists are mostly organizing them as popular festivities; for example, Prague's festivities will be held in Hvezda Park. A number of attractions and a jackpot lottery are being prepared.

It was also announced that Ladislav Adamec, CPCZ chairman, has undergone an operation. His state of health is good and he will be released from the hospital this week. [passage omitted]

CPCZ Letter to Civic Forum on Party Finances

AU1204100890 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 9 Apr 90 pp 1, 2

[Report on 7 April "open letter" from the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia Central Committee to the Civic Forum Coordinating Center]

[Text] On Saturday [7 April], the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] Central Committee sent an open letter to the Civic Forum [OF] Coordinating Center. The letter states:

The Czechoslovak information media have in the last few days been publishing reports on the decision of some working collectives to follow the appeal of the OF branch in the CKD Semiconductors plant in Prague to join a 10-minute warning strike on 11 April in connection with supposedly unresolved questions concerning the CPCZ's property.

The Executive Committee of the CPCZ Central Committee considers it necessary to reemphasize that the CPCZ has renounced any monopoly of power and any property advantages arising from this. The Extraordinary CPCZ Congress held last December voiced unambiguous support for the demand to hand over all property that had been given to the CPCZ by the state for so-called permanent use. Through RUDE PRAVO and [Bratislava] PRAVDA, citizens are being openly informed on the CPCZ's property situation. Even our party's deputies in the Federal Assembly endorsed the motion presented by Petr Kucera, deputy for the OF, concerning the solution of the property-related legal matters of all political parties and social organizations. Taking the initiative, we proposed that a parliamentary commission be set up to this end. Likewise, we support the activity of the People's Control Committee, which is currently conducting an inquiry into our party's property and its conduct of financial affairs. At its third session on 24 March, the CPCZ Central Committee adopted the decision to hand over many party-occupied immovables, including a sizable portion of the CPCZ's own property, to the ownership of the Czechoslovak state. Party property worth more than 230 million korunas was handed over to the state within last week alone.

We do not want anything that does not belong to us. We only want what is necessary for any political party's activity. We have no interest in suppressing or obfuscating data on the conduct of our financial affairs or on our property. We have published the relevant facts several times already.

We are convinced that Federal Assembly deputies in the established parliamentary commission and the current inquiry conducted by the People's Control Committee provide adequate guarantees that the property-related legal affairs of political parties will be considered in an objective way. This approach, which found the support of all political forces represented in our highest legislative body, also reflects in an optimal way the principles of a state based on the rule of law, which we jointly seek. This is why we are of the opinion, without in any way calling into question the right to strike, that the strike called for 11 April will not contribute to a sensible and just solution to this question. Moreover, advantage could be taken of this strike to cast doubt on the legality of the existence of the Communist Party, which would not be in harmony with laws passed by the reconstructed Federal Assembly.

We, too, are interested in maintaining social stability and promoting pluralist democracy in our country. This is why we appeal to the OF Coordinating Center in Prague to use its authority to take a stand against such actions, which do not contribute to calming the current internal political situation but, quite to the contrary, encourage intolerance, which is at variance with the policy of national understanding which we fully support and in which we want to take part as a fair and equal partner. We proceed from the valuable experience obtained in the months after 17 November [1989], which shows that it has been precisely the policy of national understanding that has proven itself when dealing with even the most intricate problems.

We, too, are interested in the creation of the necessary nonviolent atmosphere in the election campaign, in accordance with the appeals of Vaclav Havel, president of our republic, to all political and social movements.

Results of Czechoslovak People's Party Congress

AU1004210290

[Editorial Report] Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech on 6 April devotes pages 1 to 4 to the results of the congress of the Czechoslovak People's Party [CSL], which ended in Prague on 5 April.

On pages 1 and 2, under the headline "The Congress Completed the Renewal of the Czechoslovak People's Party," the paper carries a 2,500-word "LD"-signed report on the proceedings of the closing day of the congress. Referring to the results of elections of new party bodies, the report notes that Josef Bartoncik was reelected party chairman out of two candidates, having received 861 of the approximately 1,000 delegates' votes (the other candidate was Frantisek Reichel). Stanislav Hanak was elected CSL first deputy chairman (his competing candidate was Bohumil Svoboda) and Jiri Cerny the party's general secretary (his competing candidates were Josef Houska and Frantisek Sejnost). As the LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE report points out, the post of general secretary is a newly established one, replacing that of central secretary. The report on the closing day of the congress also mentions that the congress delegates "addressed a letter to the Cuban Embassy in the Czechoslovak Federative Republic, in which they protest against human rights violations in Cuba."

On page 3, LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE publishes the composition of the newly elected CSL bodies. The page includes the 136 names of members of the CSL Central Committee; the 11 names of members of the CSL Central Auditing Commission, whose chairman is Josef Srb from Prague; the 10 names of members of the CSL Board of Arbitration [Rozhodci sbor], whose chairman is Miroslav Vyborny from East Bohemia; as well as the composition of the 17-member CSL Central Committee Presidium. The Presidium is made up of: "Chairman: Josef Bartoncik, LLD; First Deputy Chairman: Stanislav Hanak, MD; Deputy Chairmen: Bohumil Svoboda, PhD; Engineer Josef Sedivy; General Secretary: Jiri Cerny, LLD; Members: Docent Engineer Antonin Baudys, candidate of sciences; Vaclav Cibuzar; Engineer Jaroslav Cuhra; Engineer Jan Fricar; Oldrich Chodera, PhD, LLD; Engineer Josef Meier; Engineer Ludvik Motycka; Engineer Josef Pavela; Engineer Frantisek Reichel, doctor of veterinary medicine, candidate of sciences; Richard Sacher, LLD; Bohumil Servus; and Jaromir Slapota."

On the same page LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE also carries a 700-word account of Bartoncik's, Hanak's, and Cerny's biographies and a 500-word report on a news conference held on the closing day of the congress. CSL Chairman Bartoncik is quoted as having told the news conference that the congress marked the completion of the CSL's "renewal." This process reportedly started prior to 17 November 1989, since "the overwhelming majority of members and functionaries, particularly at the lower level, never became reconciled to the [post-1968] policy of normalization and consolidation and maintained strained relations with the then CSL leadership." Another important result of the congress, according to Bartoncik, was the confirmation of the agreement on the formation of the Christian and Democratic Union, a coalition between the CSL, the Christian-Democratic Party, and the Christian Democratic Movement in Slovakia. The LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE report on the news conference also quotes CSL officials' remarks on the development of the CSL membership: "Replying to questions of domestic and foreign journalists, the CSL leading representatives stated that the number of CSL members grew to over 80,000 by 1 March 1990. This means that over 50 percent of the current members joined the party after 26 November 1989." The party's strongest regional organizations are said to be in North Moravia, South Moravia, and East Bohemia.

According to the report, Josef Bartoncik also replied to the question of whether Interior Minister Richard Sacher's continued membership in the CSL is compatible with the "depoliticization of the security forces." Bartoncik's reply reads: "We do not believe that the demand for the apolitical nature of the security forces or of the army necessarily requires the minister to be without political affiliation. Our society is returning to a democratic system, in which political parties play a major role. Ministers who are members of democratic political parties provide double control and double influence, which will render it impossible in the future for party influence to be exercised at variance with the interests of society. Doctor R. Sacher continues to be member of the CSL and has been reelected member of the CSL Presidium."

On page 1, LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE carries the 900-word "Resolution of the 1990 CSL Congress," most points of which are covered by the referent item. It also mentions that the congress declared nil and void "all political and ideological documents of the party from the period of the regime of totalitarian despotism"; turned down former CSL Central Secretary Josef Andrs' appeal against his expulsion from the party; rehabilitated all CSL members who had been persecuted, or forced to leave the party, because of their political attitude in the past decades; and issued a demand for the return of the "unlawfully seized" property of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. According to the resolution, the congress also decided to convene a party conference for the second half of this year "to consider the election results and determine further course of action."

Czechoslovak Labor Party Defines Goals

AU1104205290 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 7 Apr 90 p 2

[Report from the "By Telex, Mail, and Telephone" column]

[Text] The Czechoslovak Labor Party [Labouristicka Strana Ceskoslovenska] is a political party which defends the interests of the working people. It is striving for Czechoslovakia's comprehensive development, for development characterized by the state's extremely dynamic and promising economy, and by a speedy growth in the citizens' standard of living distinguished by democracy in society.

Organizations Hold Congresses 7, 8 Apr

AU1104221990

[Editorial Report] Czech and Slovak newspapers of 9 April report on the founding congresses and assemblies of political parties and other organizations held on Saturday, 7 April, and Sunday, 8 April. Two of these congresses are covered by the referent items.

Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 9 April on page 2 carries a 180- word "kj"-signed report on the "Extraordinary Congress of the Czechoslovak Union of Women," held in Prague on 7 April. The report notes that the congress "terminated the activity of this organization" and designated the Czech Union of Women [Cesky svaz zen] and the Democratic Women's Union of Slovakia [Demokraticka unie zen Slovenska] as its successors. According to the RUDE PRAVO report, the congress also "rehabilitated socially and politically former functionaries of the Czechoslovak Union of Women who had to leave the women's movement after 1968 because of their political stands." A 120-word CTK report on the congress of the women's union, carried by Prague PRACE in Czech on 9 April on page 2, mentions that the congress also appointed a commission which will determine the fate of the union's property as well as a 24-member "preparatory committee for the formation of the Federation of Women's Organizations, Movements, and Associations [Federace zenskych organizaci, hnuti, a spolku]" as a "coordinating body."

Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 9 April on page 2 carries a 60-word unattributed report on the national conference of the Czechoslovak Red Cross [CSCK], which was held in Prague on 7 April. The conference elected Vaclav Burian to the post of president of the Czechoslovak Red Cross and set up a youth branch, the Young Czechoslovak Red Cross [Mladez CSCK].

On the same day, on page 3, RUDE PRAVO carries a 250-word CTK report on an assembly of "Revival—Club for Democratic Socialism" [Obroda—Klub za socialisticky socialismus], held in Prague on 8 April. The report notes that this assembly of reform communists, which was attended by some 200 delegates, confirmed the organization's name, approved its statutes and electoral program, and elected Milos Hajek as the club's new chairman. Hajek is quoted as having told the assembly that the "Revival" club has about 6,000 "supporters" and that it will run for the elections together with the Civic Forum. According to the RUDE PRAVO report, the assembly "dissociated itself emphatically from the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, which Revival does not regard as a left-wing force but as a conservative and nondemocratic force." Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech on 9 April on page 2 carries a 200-word "brp"-signed report on the assembly of the "Revival" club, which mentions that, starting in late April, "Revival" will be publishing its own periodical as a weekly supplement of the Civic Forum's daily.

On 9 April, on page 3, RUDE PRAVO carries a 150-word "kj"-signed report on the constituent assembly of the Peace Union of Bohemia and Moravia [Mirova unie Cech a Moravy]," held in Prague on 7 April. The report, which is otherwise covered by the second referent item, notes that the congress elected Roman Raczynski, doctor of natural sciences, as chairman of the union.

On the same page, RUDE PRAVO also carries a 200-word report on the constituent congress of the Union of Librarians and Information Workers of the Czech Republic [Svaz knihovniku a informacnich pracovniku Ceske Republiky] in Prague on 7 April. The union wants to build on the work of the Union of Librarians, which was disbanded in 1970. Jarmila Burgetova became the union's chairwoman.

On the same day, on page 4, RUDE PRAVO carries a 350-word "cg"- signed report on the "first regular general assembly of the Community of Writers" [Obec spisovatulu], held in Prague on 7 April. Discussion at the assembly, which was attended by some 400 of the community's 518 members, reportedly focused on "the impact of the growing economic pressure on culture in general and on conditions for the publication of books and the social security of writers in particular." The assembly elected an 11-member Council of the Community of Writers, which then elected the poet Ivan Wernisch as its chairman. Vaclav Havel was elected the community's honorary chairman. A 300-word "jrf"-signed report on the writers' community assembly, published by Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech on 9 April on page 8, notes that literary critic Milan Jungmann was elected deputy chairman of the community's council. Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech on 9 April on page 3 carries a 300-word interview with poet Karel Siktanc, one of the 11 members of the Council of the Community of Writers. In the interview, which deals with the community's assembly, Siktanc mentions that—unlike its predecessor, the Czech Writers' Association—the community will not have a publishing house of its own but that it intends to publish its own periodical. Siktanc says that the community does not distinguish between writers according to their views or political affiliation and that any writer who has published a book, or whose manuscript has been accepted by a publishing house, can become its member. According to Siktanc, the community includes literary critics and theorists among its members but no translators, who have formed a "community" of their own.

Prague RUDE PRAVO on 9 April, on page 7, also carries a 100-word report on the constituent congress of the Democratic Union of Health and Sports. The report, which is covered by the first referent item, makes it possible to confirm the queried name of the union's chairman—Vaclav Polacek.

Prague PRACE in Czech on 9 April on page 2 carries a 200-word CTK report on the constituent general assembly of the Association of Entrepreneurs in the Czech Republic [Sdruzeni podnikatelu v Ceske Republice] in Prague on 7 April. The association, which is said to have almost 50,000 members, elected Dr. Jiri Frgal as its chairman, as well as three deputy chairmen. Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech on 9 April on page 4 carries a 300- word "ge"-signed report on the entrepreneurs' assembly. The LIDOVE NOVINY report states that the constituent general assembly of the Association of Czech Entrepreneurs was followed by a joint meeting of the associations of Czech and Slovak entrepreneurs, which elected an eight-member "coordinating committee" to coordinate the course of action in the two republics and represent the entrepreneurs vis-a- vis federal bodies and institutions. As the LIDOVE NOVINY report points out, although the entrepreneurs intended to be a nonpolitical organization, "developments have prompted them to change this standpoint. Czech entrepreneurs now intend to be represented on the Czechoslovak People's Party's ticket for the elections while Slovak entrepreneurs cooperate with the Christian-Democratic movement."

Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech on 9 April on page 3 carries a 200-word report on the "first regular congress of the Theatrical Community [Divadelni obec]" in Prague on 8 April. As the report stresses, this new organization of theater artists, which operates in the Czech Republic, "does not want to build in any way on the woeful practices of the former Union of Theater, Cinema, and Television Artists." The congress approved the community's statutes and elected a 15-member executive committee.

Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak on 9 April on page 2 carries a 100- word "pj"-signed report on the constituent congress of the Union of Pedagogues of Slovakia [Unia pedagogov Slovenska], a professional organization representing the interests of teachers from the whole of Slovakia. V. Slaninka was elected chairman of the union.

Political Spectrum, Countryside Alliances Viewed

AU1104133190 Prague ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY in Czech 5 Apr 90 p 1

["kop"-signed report: "The Chips Are Down; The Configuration of Political Forces for the Countryside and Agriculture Prior to the Start of the Election Campaign"]

[Text] Calls for the alliance of political forces seeking the support of the countryside and, in particular, farmers have been growing in strength in the press, radio, and television. Such calls have also been appearing in letters addressed to the daily press and to the secretariats of political parties.

The following parties entered into negotiations with the Civic Forum: the Czechoslovak Agricultural Party of Towns and the Countryside, as the first such party to have been constituted; the Party of the Czech Countryside; the Free Farmers' Party; the Party of the Moravian Countryside; the Political Movement of Members of United Agricultural Cooperatives; and, subsequently, also the Republican Party of the Czechoslovak Countryside.

The first party operating in the countryside and agriculture to subscribe to the principles of the Civic Forum was, even prior to 9 March, the Czechoslovak Republican Agrarian Party of Towns and the Countryside, which is represented by its chairman, Mr. Milos Vanura. It did so at the 1 March 1990 session of the Political Commission of the Civic Forum Coordinating Center in Prague. It was followed by the Party of the Czech Countryside, whose leader Frantisek Krejci, doctor of natural sciences, subscribed to these principles on 8 March.

The 9 March negotiations on the premises of the Civic Forum Coordinating Center clarified somewhat the attitude of the other aforementioned political parties and movements toward the Civic Forum. While the parties of Mr. Vanura and Mr. Krejci remained loyal to the principles of the Civic Forum and went in for permanent political cooperation with it, the Czechoslovak Agricultural Party, led by Docent Engineer Frantisek Trnka, did not commit itself to direct cooperation with the Civic Forum, despite the fact that at its constituent congress, held at Zadverice in Moravia on 13 January, it embraced the Civic Forum principles. The remaining four parties and movements were still undecided.

Meanwhile, in the course of March, these parties established contact and entered into negotiations with a view to establishing cooperation and reinforcing their political positions. The basic political orientation of the leaderships of these political parties led to the formation of two political alliances. At talks held in the ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY editorial office on 26 March 1990, the Czechoslovak Agricultural Party formed an alliance with the Political Movement of Members of United Agricultural Cooperatives, which is led by Mr. Frantisek Melich, chairman of the united agricultural cooperatives at Nectiny, Plzen district; with the Party of the Moravian Countryside, which is led by Mr. Jaroslav Broz from Bruntal; and with the Republican Party of the Czechoslovak Countryside, whose chairman is Engineer Radim Donat from Cernosice near Prague. The newly established political electoral coalition calls itself Alliance of Agrarians and the Countryside.

The Free Farmers' Party, which is led by Mr. Ladislav Hlavko from Prague, will contest the elections together with the Czechoslovak People's Party, on the basis of a resolution of its first congress of 31 March 1990.

The Czechoslovak Republican Agrarian Party of Towns and the Countryside, which operates in both republics, and the Party of the Czech Countryside stay under the Civic Forum's umbrella.

In addition to the aforementioned political parties and movements, there is also a nonpolitical organization operating in the countryside—the Association of Private Farmers [Sdruzeni soukromych zemedelcu]. The association's constituent meeting at Nymburk on 24 March 1990 elected Mr. Jaroslav Plechac from Semily as its chairman.

For the sake of completeness, let us add the existence of the Preparatory Committee of the Economic Association of Privately Operating Farmers [Ekonomicke sdruzeni soukrome hospodaricich zemedelcu], which is represented by its spokesman, Mr. Jaroslav Navratil from Bukov na Morave.

Public Against Violence Stance on CPCZ Property

LD1104015790 Prague CTK in English 1856 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Bratislava April 10 (CTK)—The Coordinating Centre of the Public Against Violence approved today the decision of the Federal Assembly deputies of March 15, 1990, according to which a commission will inquire into the property of all political parties and movements from the point of view of justification of its acquirement.

In harmony with the stand of the Civic Forum, the Public Against Violence supports the demands of work teams for dispossession of the unlawfully acquired property of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the Slovak Communist Party. The Public Against Violence supports the justified expressions of dissatisfaction of the population and calls for speeding up the work of the commission inquiring into the property of the Communist Party.

Public Against Violence Notes Election Program

LD1204022590 Prague CTK in English 1729 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Bratislava April 11 (CTK) - Deputy chairman of the Slovak National Council and chairman of the Coordinating Centre of the Public Against Violence Jan Budaj pointed out at a briefing here today the responsible attitude of the deputies who at a joint meeting of the Presidiums of the Federal Assembly, The Czech National Council and the Slovak National Council in Prague yesterday discussed the name of the republic.

The draft name "The Czech and Slovak Federative Republic" (CSFR) is, in the opinion of Jan Budaj, a proof of the ability of newborn democracy to overcome a crisis—the information and emotional gap in the two nations' attitudes.

The Public Against Violence Civic Initiative will run for the elections under the slogan "Chance for Slovakia". Its election program is based on the principles of national sovereignty and democratic pluralist system. It supports market economy and accentuates social guarantees.

Civic Forum News Conference on Economy, C. Europe

LD1004170190 Prague CTK in English 1533 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 10 (CTK)—On May 1 [word indistinct] individual enterprise will take effect in Czechoslovakia and other economic laws are being drafted, for instance, the one on joint stock companies, Czechoslovak Federal Assembly Deputy Chairman Zdenek Jicinsky said at a press conference given by the Civic Forum here today.

Some prominent candidates for representative bodies' deputies who are taking part in drawing up the economic reform were present at the press conference. In addition to Zdenek Jicinskiy there were deputy Premier Valtr Komarek, Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus, Czech Deputy Premier Frantisek Vlasak and others.

Asked what unemployment should be expected in Czechoslovakia within one year, Minister Klaus said that this can hardly be forecast. It will depend on how the economic reform progresses and how successfully it is realized.

Vaclav Klaus also said that on April 12, the Federal Government will discuss a document on the further strategy of the economic reform part of which will also be a denationalization program.

This program will start still before the June 8-9 elections but privatization will not have been realized by then since the economy must first be brought into such a state in which it can be privatized, the finance minister said. He pointed out that the aim of the economic policy of the government is to fight against inflation in any form.

Czechoslovak Deputy Premier Valtr Komarek stressed that the Czechoslovak economy needs profound structural changes which could be realized in his view within more than ten years.

This will require foreign capital and probably also loans, while Czechoslovakia's foreign debt must not go up too much and the loans must be returnable.

It was announced at the press conference that representatives of the Civic Initiatives from Poland and Hungary who took part, in addition to the top representatives of Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary, in the Bratislava meeting on April 9, adopted a joint statement in which they proposed, inter alia, the establishment of a transnational university in Central Europe, and turned to their governments to hold this year an international conference on how to explicitly determine the rights of national minorities in all spheres of the life of society.

Civic Forum on Jun Elections, Party Property

LD1104020190 Prague CTK in English 2010 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 10 (CTK)—"The chances of the Civic Forum in the June elections are high. The majority of parties try to explain to their voters what they want and what they do not want. We say how to do it," this was stressed at the Civic Forum press conference here today.

Journalists were told inter alia that the Civic Forum list of candidates will include e.g. Federal Minister of Finance Vaclav Klaus, Federal Assembly Deputy Chairman Zdenek Jicinsky or Czech Deputy Premier Frantisek Vlasak.

Commenting on the problem of the property of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, representative of the Coordinating Centre of the Civic Forum Petr Kucera stressed that the Civic Forum wants to break this mafia vicious circle also by controlling the movement of the property from Communist Party accounts towards strange corporations which start business activities mostly with international participation.

The criteria of the Coordinating Centre of the Civic Forum for the composition of the new government are clear: Responsibility and professional qualities, and party affiliatiation comes last, Civic forum representatives stressed.

'Party of Working People' Introduced

AU1104220690 Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech 6 Apr 90 p 3

[Unattributed report from the "Who is Who" column: "Czechoslovak Party of the Working People"]

[Text] The Czechoslovak Party of the Working People [Ceskoslovenska strana pracujicich] wants to attend to the concerns of the working people regardless of their world outlook. It wants to prevent the exploitation of employees by employers, drastic measures taken at the expense of the socially weaker strata of the public, and the privatization of enterprises. The party's aims are consistent respect for human rights, enhancement of the authority and legal powers of workers' councils in enterprises, justice in wage policy, and the improvement of the social situation of young families. The party, which wants to be a left-wing party, is open to atheists and believers alike. It intends to run in the June elections as an independent party. Contact: Jan Kocan, No. 271 General Svoboda Street, Vranov nad Toplou.

Deputy Premier Dlouhy on Economic Reform

PM1004110290 Paris LE MONDE in French 7 Apr 90 p 2

[Article by Vladimir Dlouhy, Czechoslovak deputy premier and chairman of the State Planning Commission: "The Transition From the Plan to the Market"]

[Text] On 16 February, LE MONDE published an article by Lionel Stoleru, secretary of state to the prime minister with responsibility for planning, devoted to questions of economic reform in the East European countries. His thoughts, reported in Czechoslovak newspapers, bear witness not only to an interest in our countries' situation but also to a deep knowledge of the problem.

Over the past three months, politicians and economists have sometimes lacked courage in telling the population that our economic reform would have social costs. Such a lack of political courage leads to vacillation in planning the main stages of economic reform. This is a huge and dangerous mistake for at least three reasons.

First, the external environment of our economy is changing very rapidly. A unified Germany, which will be a reality at the end of this year, will be Czechoslovakia's main commercial partner, even more important than the Soviet Union, and the currency will be the West German Deutsche mark, which will be fully convertible. Poland and Hungary are rapidly approaching the stage of convertibility for their currencies. The Soviet Union and other CEMA countries are firmly demanding a move to world prices and payments in convertible currencies beginning 1 January next year. These are changes about which nothing was known just two months ago.

Second, it is necessary to respond to the currently unfavorable economic situation. The postponement of the main measures of the economic reform—the central one being the adjustment of price structures through price derestriction—would in fact require a return to the former administrative methods of the central plan. That is impossible.

Third, political fears of an economic reform are unfounded. It is precisely now, amid the real enthusiasm stemming from the current changes, that the population is politically prepared to tolerate the possible social repercussions of this reform. The many letters which I receive, and debates with experts but also with workers, tend to show a fear that the government is not moving decisively enough and that it is reluctant to tackle the reform.

There are three main spheres in which we must simultaneously make rapid progress: First, the current legislative reform, notably the laws on private enterprise, foreign investments, and planning; second, the gradual creation of the market and competition, by splitting up the existing monopolies, and introducing convertibility, and an open policy to foreign countries; and third, price derestriction.

Necessary Stages

It is clear that these are mutually dependent facts: It is impossible to accept price derestriction in an economy without any competition or market, and, at the same time, competition cannot be created without price derestriction. And it is this apparently vicious circle which clearly demonstrates that partial solutions do not exist and that the only possible approach is to simultaneously develop the market and competition and establish price derestriction. Failure to respect this principle and attempts at partial solutions motivated by the political fear of the possible social repercussions have led the East European economies into the reform impasse of high inflation and economic stagnation.

At the same time, the government intends to introduce several coherent measures which can be interpreted as the sum of all the necessary minimum steps.

1. The macroeconomic framework: The creation of an anti-inflationist climate is becoming a vital precondition for price derestriction. The government recently adopted the proposed 1990 budget which represents a turning-point in the current policy: Strict limits on subsidies and budget spending have the aim of achieving a budget surplus. The Czechoslovak central bank has drafted a clearly restrictive monetary policy.

2. Institutional changes: The government is preparing a whole series of changes in economic legislation. We will soon witness the restructuring of the excessively complicated Czechoslovak system of economic ministries: A unified economy ministry will be created, the old form of the central plan will be abolished, and a planning institute will be set up with similar missions to those of the French Planning Commission.

Increasing the responsibliity of enterprise management is crucially important. Administrative councils will be formed in the enterprises, independent of the company's local interests, and will have the main task of monitoring the management's activity. We intend to keep in the state sector enterprises producing essential goods [biens d'utilite generale] and a limited number of big industrial enterprises.

3. Prices and incomes: The abolition of the "tax on turnover"—which makes it possible to maintain the low price of basic commodities (especially food products) by maintaining high prices for industrial goods—which the government is planning for the next few days, will be an initial step. The crucial point of this economic reform is the derestriction of prices as quickly as possible.

Social Repercussions

Price derestriction will have to be accompanied by the derestriction of exchange rates and interest rates. We are counting on the Czechoslovak koruna's transition to partial convertibility to make possible free access to foreign currency for local producers and foreign producers working in Czechoslovakia as soon as possible. This important step will take shape in the coming weeks and cannot be envisaged without the development of the financial, currency, and capital market. A floating exchange rate will gradually be established.

The overall derestriction of the economy remains impossible without wage derestriction, but at the same time the government is fully aware of the risks of inflation linked to free market price fixing. Regarding private enterprises, the government does not intend to limit their wage contracts; it will simply monitor how they operate. With regard to state enterprises, the government will temporarily continue to regulate wages, but on the basis of a much simpler system.

4. The social network: As Mr. Stoleru rightly reaffirmed in his article, the reforming process, especially in its introductory phase, will have major social repercussions on the population. In this sphere, we must work on the experiences of the developed economies and establish the broadest possible social system.

Three Categories

These social measures can be divided into three categories: outright compensation for the abolition of subsidies, especially for the social groups most affected; index-linking of wages which would not be automatic but would operate during exceptional periods; and, finally, a broad system of unemployment benefit, training, and redeployment.

5. Industrial policy: The government will develop its own industrial policy to move from heavy industry's current superiority toward an economic structure which would correspond to our existing comparative assets: for instance, services, tourism, investment in ecology, transportation, and telecommunications. Other development programs are being drawn up, for instance the energy program which would place the emphasis on a reasonable development of nuclear energy and would make possible a major reduction in the production of energy from lignite.

The Czechoslovak economy is facing major changes which will not only be extremely difficult, but will have fairly major social repercussions, and we will have to launch a real political struggle to successfully implement the reform. All foreign support for this political struggle and the implementation of the reform will be a very great help. We want to give all foreign entrepreneurs the usual guarantees, as liberal as possible, for their activities, to ensure the protection of their property and the repatriation of profits. I am convinced that our country now has the best conditions for achieving the transition to a market economy and the gradual economic and political integration into our renewed old Europe.

State Bank Chairman on New Strategy

LD0904133890 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1000 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Beginning in April, the Czechoslovak State Bank put into practice a new strategy, which was summed up by its chairman, Josef Tosovsky, in four points:

[Begin Tosovsky recording] First, we want to control the overall volume of credits in the economy. Our policy, as well as our state budget, should be vigorously anti-inflationary. This volume should fluctuate between minus 2 percent and plus 1 percent. This means that the volume of credit in the economy will be either lower or at a maximum, higher by 1 percent in comparison with last year.

Second, by increasing the interest rate, we want to reduce the demand for Czechoslovak crowns. This has already taken place, and, since April, the State Bank has raised its so-called discount rate from 4 to 5 percent. This is the rate used by the State Bank in granting funds to commercial banks. The maximum interest rate commercial banks can charge for long-term credits is currently 9.5 percent.

The third step of the monetary policy is to maintain Czechoslovakia's low indebtedness in freely convertible currencies. At the end of last year, Czechoslovakia's gross indebtedness was U.S.$7.900 million. At the beginning of this year, in the first two months, is has dropped a little to $7.300 million, if I have it right. Until the State Bank has seen that the economic reform is beginning to work and that positive changes are taking place in the economy, it does not intend to permit increased drawing of foreign credits and to increase indebtedness. This is substantiated by reasons from the past, because the economic system is not functioning as it should and expended funds probably would not be returned during the time of credits' repayment.

The fourth point consists of the exchange rates. As you know, a devaluation of the crown by 18.6 percent toward freely convertible currencies and a revaluation by 10 percent toward the convertible Ruble, or, in other words, toward the Ruble zone, was carried out at the beginning of the year. As far as the further progress of economic reform and our considerations are concerned, then it seems—and in the meantime I note that this is an open question—that in the future we will have to continue devaluing our crown toward freely convertible currencies. [end recording]

Fears of International Crime in CSFR Expressed

AU1104221590 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 7 Apr 90 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Lieutenant Colonel Frantisek Maryska, head of the Federal Criminal Bureau, by Rostislav Valasek; place and date not given—"What Attracts Gangs to Our Country?"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted on Maryska's recent visit to the New York Police Department] [Valasek] Are you not disturbed by international criminal gangs?

[Maryska] Our geographical location has attracted international crime organizations for a long time, whether this involves transporting drugs or smuggling goods. We must deal with the fact that sooner or later drug traffickers will attempt to expand their market into Czechoslovakia. Freer movement across borders could also mean that criminals sought by the police in other countries will try to take refuge on our territory. In the future, we cannot even exclude stopovers by foreign terrorist groups, activity by money forgers, and so on.

[Valasek] When can we count on membership in Interpol?

[Maryska] Interpol is an intergovernmental organization, and our entry into it has to be discussed by the government. Membership is also conditional on a financial deposit. We feel that we should be able to apply for membership in Interpol in a few months. For example, in the future, this will mean the possibility of using its information system and, alternatively, we can supply it with information that we uncover in our struggle against crime.

[Valasek] In connection with 17 November 1989 and the subsequent events, there has been a lot of talk about unaccounted for persons. These investigations are being carried out by the Federal Criminal Bureau. What conclusions have you reached?

[Maryska] We have looked into some cases of persons who are unaccounted for, but no connection has been made between them and the aforementioned date and events.

Dienstbier's Security Proposal Viewed Favorably

AU1104221890 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak
7 Apr 90 p 4

[Bedrich Zagar commentary: "An Idea Worthy of Support"]

[Text] In essence, this is a noble idea which should merit full consideration by all European countries and governments—from Moscow to Dublin and from Stockholm to Athens. Europe's peaceful future is involved in it. Jiri Dienstbier, our foreign minister, came up with the initiative in London of establishing a Commission for European Security, a commission that would be the executive organ of a pan-European treaty on collective security. It is, incidentally, the logical conclusion to be drawn from the new situation in Europe. The old division into military pacts is gradually dying and new structures are waiting to be born. Our diplomatic corps has come up with just the impetus for the creation of new structures.

However, thoroughly implementing this proposal will not be simple. Issues surrounding each state's security are extraordinarily sensitive, and getting all 35 CSCE participants onto one platform will not be possible without protracted negotiations. Although our initiative is still only a vision for Europe's future security, apparently complicated barriers will have to be overcome in going after it. The democratization of international relations does not only mean the maximum possible internationalization when resolving problems by involving all the participants in the unfinished "pan-European home"; it also means humanizing these relations.

Military issues will have to be dealt with on the road to achieving collective security. This assumes that certain demilitarization steps will be taken by all European states, at least to a level sufficient for each state's defense. The plan for collective security could not be implemented if current numbers were to be maintained because smaller states could not rid themselves of the fear of possible aggression from larger states. The Vienna negotiations on reducing the number of conventional weapons are nearing a conclusion, but the level of military forces, even after reductions were made, would not be sufficient for signing a treaty on collective security.

A united Germany remains a huge question mark; Minister Dienstbier has expressed his faith in this country as a democratic state, but the new 80 million-strong state cannot be accepted by all European countries with absolute trust and the certainty that no danger will threaten from its side. The united Germany should indeed reduce its armed forces to the level necessary for defense needs.

The most serious problem will be nuclear weapons. Collective security is unthinkable if some states possess nuclear weapons and others are without them. The categorical demand for complete nuclear disarmament surfaces here, and not only within the European framework. The United States and the Soviet Union should play a key role. If they were to agree on the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, this could convince the other owners of such weapons—whether in Europe or outside the continent—of the necessity of denuclearization and, moreover, it could persuade those whom, to date, we label as alleged or potential nuclear powers. The Soviet Union is amenable in this regard; after all, it has proposed the elimination of all nuclear weapons before the year 2000. However, so far, the United States has not shown any willingness to give up these weapons and, moreover, is still insisting on its military presence in Europe.

This is only a rough outline of the problems that need to be solved before achieving a new structure for efficient and collective European security. Despite the fact that implementing our initiative requires a great deal of work and despite the fact that a lot of effort will have to be made so that everyone becomes aware of it, it is necessary to strive patiently for it.

Dlouhy Remarks on CSCE Talks in Bonn

LD1104013990 Prague CTK in English 2026 GMT
10 Apr 90

[Text] Bonn April 10 (CTK correspondent)—The CSCE conference which ended in Bonn today was significant mainly due to the fact that principles included in its draft final document will clearly define the ways of economic reforms in East European economies and the framework of cooperation between all European countries, Czechoslovak Deputy Premier Vladimir Dlouhy told Czechoslovak journalists here today.

He said that in his opinion this is an important step towards a future all-European integration.

Vladimir Dlouhy met with FRG Minister of Economics Helmut Haussmann. He said that cooperation was agreed upon between the FRG Ministry of Economics and the Czechoslovak State Planning Commission as well as setting up a joint working group of the ministry and the commission. He pointed out that Czechoslovakia should have a certain idea on how industrial policy is formed in the conditions of market economy in the FRG, what tools are used to push it through, what role in market economy is played by the state centre—to use the experience West Germany has in this respect.

The Czechoslovak official pointed out that during his talks with French Minister of the Economy, Finance and the Budget Pierre Beregovoy on Monday they also came to the conclusion that a joint working group should be established in order to accelerate progress in industrial policy between the two countries.

In the afternoon Mr Dlouhy left Bonn.

Dubcek on Journalists of 1968, Present Time

LD0604202790 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 6 Apr 90

[Report on interview with Federal Assembly Chairman Alexander Dubcek by Lubos Lidicky on 6 April; place not given—recorded]

[Text] Journalists active during the Prague Spring of 1968 invited Federal Assembly Chairman Alexander Dubcek to a discussion meeting. This was in effect a continuation of the news conference which had been broken off by force 20 years ago. No wonder, therefore, that the hall was filled to capacity, with endless questions being asked. After the discussion meeting ended, Lubos Lidicky invited Alexander Dubcek to a brief interview:

[Lidick] Mr. Chairman, you have met those who 20 years ago were propagating your thoughts and ideas. How do you view journalists of the 1968 Prague Spring?

[Dubcek, in Slovak] I believe that the history of journalism will be returning to that year in order to carry out a commemoration of all those courageous journalists, without whom what had been achieved at that time in making people aware of the breadth of that 1968 movement could not have been achieved. I tell you sincerely, and this is aimed especially at young people, that to do this required a great deal of moral strength, honesty, and courage.

[Lidicky] How do you view the journalists of 1990?

[Dubcek] The time and the movement will once again give rise to courageous and honest people, who will work in the interest of this new democracy, in the interest of advancing intellect, sovereignty, and our statehood, people who will stand honestly, correctly, and consciously on the side of that movement, which wants to raise our republic to the level of advanced European countries, to which we are rightly entitled.

[Lidicky] Mr. Chairman, we are facing elections. You are an optimist, and you said as much during your conversation with journalists. What are journalists' tasks precisely at this time in the election campaign?

[Dubcek] Their task is to keep in mind and to support only and above all the interests of our society, the interests of our nations in the spirit of this new democracy, and not to be carried away by narrow group interests, which would harm precisely this general interest of our people.

'Arafat 12-13 Apr Visit to CSFR Previewed

LD1104165490 Prague CTK in English 1530 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 11 (CTK)—The visit of prominent Palestinian representative Yasir 'Arafat to Czechoslovakia on April 12-13 is the ninth since 1975 but the first after Czechoslovakia's resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel.

The president of the Palestinian state and chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization Executive Committee will visit Czechoslovakia at the invitation of Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel.

The Czechoslovak president called in his new year's address for the resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel which were severed after the Israeli-Arab war in June in 1967. In this connection the Palestinian ambassador to Czechoslovakia voiced concern that the resumption of the relations with Israel and the "way it is being realized will be understood by Israel as an expression of the willingness to accommodate to the continuing occupation of the Palestinian and Arab territories". But several days before his statement the Czechoslovak president stressed in his talk with Palestinian ambassador Samih L'Abdallah al-Fatih the desire of the Czechoslovak public for a just peace in the Middle East and supported the right of the Palestinian people to their home. He also assured the ambassador that the "planned resumption of diplomatic relations between Czechoslovakia and Israel is not meant to the detriment of our friendly relations with the Palestinian people. On the contrary, Czechoslovakia could play the role of a mediator in the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue if this is the wish of the two sides".

During his January visit to Prague, the then Israeli First Deputy Premier Shim'on Peres stressed in his talk with President Havel that "Czechoslovakia's good relations with Israel should not be to the detriment of its relations with the Arab countries." Diplomatic relations between the two countries were then established on February 9 during the visit to Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens to Prague.

The former communist regime, which ruled Czechoslovakia till November 1989, had been granting political and diplomatic support to the Palestine Liberation Organization. An unofficial PLO representation was established in Prague in September 1976, and in 1983 this office was granted the status of a diplomatic mission. Since 1988 a Palestinian ambassador has been accredited to Czechoslovakia. Yasir 'Arafat visited Czechoslovakia three times last year alone.

After the November 1989 revolution in Czechoslovakia the Palestinian Embassy in Prague issued a statement "welcoming the development over the past years in Czechoslovakia and other Eastern European countries".

The two-day visit of Yasir 'Arafat to Czechoslovakia, during which he will visit also the Slovak capital of Bratislava, will undoubtedly show whether Czechoslovakia is able after the resumption of the all-round relations with Israel to contribute to what Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel has called "the Israeli- Palestinian dialogue" especially at the time of dramatic developments in Israel, caused mainly by the search for ways towards a settlement of the long and tragic conflict.

Havel, Dienstbier Welcome 'Arafat

LD1204124390 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1000 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has arrived today on a two- day visit in Czechoslovakia. He was welcomed at Ruzyne Airport in Prague by President Vaclav Havel, at whose invitation the visit is taking place. Jiri Dienstbier, deputy federal premier and minister of foreign affairs, also participated in welcoming the highest Palestinian representative. After a brief conversation in the airport lounge, Yasir 'Arafat, accompanied by a motorbike escort, departed for Hotel Praha.

World 'Appeasement' of USSR Over Lithuania

AU0604135690 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 5 Apr 90 p 3

[Dusan Provaznik commentary: "A New Appeasement Policy"]

[Text] What kind of hypocritical play on words have we been witnessing recently in connection with Lithuania? Is the deployment of 2,000 paratroopers in Vilnius and the gradual occupation of official buildings a manifestation of force against the Lithuanians or is it not? Are we to wait until clashes leading to fatalities are provoked giving Moscow the pretext for a regular intervention as we know it from August 1968?

Once again, the world does not want to confront reality as it is, but would rather bury its head in the sand. Just as in 1938, today's appeasers are more willing to look for mistakes on the part of a small nation rather than on the part of its considerably larger opponent. Just as at that time, today's stance is not only immoral but—first and foremost—it is short-sighted. Just as making concessions to the stronger side was not successful in preserving peace in 1938, today it is already impossible to prevent the collapse of the Soviet empire by remaining shamefully silent about the liberation movements of nations colonized by Moscow. Of course, it would be better if the collapse were to happen in an orderly fashion, but, obviously, it is too late for that. By remaining silent in the face of Moscow's increasing pressure on Lithuania, the world is helping neither Mikhail Gorbachev nor perestroyka, as those urging restraint are trying to convince us. By expressing its unambiguous support for an independent Lithuania—among other things, in the form of diplomatic recognition—the world would only be doing Gorbachev a service because it would be letting him know in no uncertain terms where the limit is beyond which he should not go in his own interest. Will this place him in an untenable situation and risk his isolation by the conservative wing in the party, by the army, or by the KGB? According to this logic, we should be pleased if M. Gorbachev remains in power and even if he adopts a conservative policy which, in the given case, would mean his utilization of all the massive power he possesses as president and general secretary to suppress the Lithuanians' endeavor for independence. This method of thinking betrays its weakness by overlooking the other possibility which M. Gorbachev has at his disposal; that is, he can rely on the democratic wing in the party and in society and resolve the situation by political means without using force.

The culmination of ethnic conflicts has brought restructuring in the Soviet Union to a crossroads from which two paths lead. Using force to suppress a national liberation movement is a path which will reverse development. Immediately writing off what has already been lost—for example, Lithuania—is the second path. Moscow would thus wipe the slate clean and gain time to speedily adopt new laws on federation or confederation, laws which would give the other nations sufficient scope for national self-determination and the advantages resulting from belonging to a larger state entity.

However, let us return to the heart of the matter: Historical experience has taught us that appeasement is a path which does not lead anywhere and which merely prepares those going along it for even more unpleasant surprises in the near or distant future.

Lithuania Seen Posing Problem for U.S., Kremlin

AU1004144490 Prague PRACE in Czech 7 Apr 90 p 3

[Karel Cech commentary from the "At the End of the Week" column]

[Text] The Washington meeting between M. Gorbachev and G. Bush, originally planned for the beginning of this summer, will now take place practically a month later than expected. According to the announcement made on Thursday [5 April] by the Kremlin and the White House, the Soviet leader will now arrive in Washington on 30 May.

This will be the 19th summit meeting to be held in the 47 years of meetings between the most senior representatives of both superpowers; however, Gorbachev will be the first Soviet statesman to sit at the negotiating table with the title of president. As in his six previous meetings with the United States' most senior representative (he met five times with President Reagan and, at the end of last year, he held talks with Reagan's successor Bush in stormy waters off the Maltese coast), the forthcoming talks in Washington will also have a rather packed agenda and—if everything goes according to plan—during the course of the meeting, both presidents should sign several fundamental disarmament documents.

Apart from the agreement on the gradual elimination of chemical weapons and on the reduction in the numbers of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe, the world is awaiting with particularly baited breath the much postponed signing of the agreement on a 50-percent reduction in strategic nuclear devices, an agreement known by the acronym START. However, it is necessary to take this 50-percent reduction soberly and with a certain amount of reserve. Practically the entire 1,000-page-long draft agreement proceeds from a plan which the then U.S. President Reagan submitted in 1982 to Gorbachev's predecessor Brezhnev. During eight years of constantly protracted negotiations, the nuclear arsenals of both superpowers have increased so much that, for example, today this treaty will permit the United States to deploy 15 percent more nuclear weapons than the number it had at its disposal at that time. On the Soviet side, there will be a rapid reduction in the number of large strategic missiles deployed in underground silos, missiles which are much harder to hit than modern missiles in mobile systems, but the restrictions will hardly affect submarines. According to Frank von Hippel, a physicist at Princeton University, after this 50-percent reduction has been made in their nuclear resources, each of the superpowers will have at its disposal approximately the equivalent of 60,000 nuclear bombs of the type which 45 years ago razed Hiroshima and Nagasaki to the ground and which, unfortunately, are not only enough for the multiple mutual destruction of the United States and the Soviet Union but are also enough for the destruction of the rest of the planet....

Apart from disarmament issues and mutual relations between both countries, another logical point on the agenda at the Washington talks will be the fundamental problem of the global situation, first and foremost, the situation in Europe whose development, especially in the past few months, had been moving at great speed—even before the recent unexpected revolutions. An example of this is the German reunification process or the processes of radical change in the central and East European states whose consequence is the actual collapse of the Warsaw Pact. However, without a doubt, one of the key topics will be the situation in the Soviet Union itself, a country which finds itself at a historical crossroads.

The most topical issue at the moment is development in the Baltic republics, particularly in Lithuania. Put in the words of one of the most senior representatives of the U.S. State Department, the Lithuanian issue has placed Gorbachev in the situation of a man who is being crushed by a mountain of rocks on one side and by a stone wall on the other side. However, the unilateral declaration of Lithuanian independence has not only placed the Kremlin but also the White House in rather a delicate situation. Like the majority of other Western countries, the United States had never recognized Stalin's annexation of the Baltic republics. Therefore, they consider today's endeavors by the Lithuanians, Estonians, and Latvians for independence and freedom to be absolutely justified, but, at the same time, they also understand the risks with which this process is threatening the political survival of the Soviet president, a president hopelessly weakened by a series of other domestic conflicts and by the USSR's dismal economic situation. Gorbachev's fall would have an incalculable impact on the stability of relations between East and West and none of the responsible Western politicians has an interest in this.

The declaration of the renewal of an independent Lithuanian state has placed the White House—just like Downing Street or the Elysee Palace—in a stalemate. Therefore, regardless of pressure from the more conservative circles in Congress and from public opinion, Bush has rejected the idea of the immediate diplomatic recognition of a free Lithuania and is limiting himself to repeated appeals to resolve the whole problem by exclusively peaceful methods and peaceful means.

Soviet Troop Withdrawal Leaves Residual 'Damage'

LD1204032490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1930 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] The Czechoslovak and Soviet Government commissioners supervising the departure of Soviet troops from Czechoslovak territory, Major General (Rudolf Duchacek) and Colonel General Eduard Vorobyev, held a working meeting in Prague today [11 April]. Together with experts from ministries and departments of the two countries, they reviewed progress in implementing the intergovernmental agreement on the departure of Soviet troops. They noted that it was proceeding according to plan, and that the process for transferring military installations from the Soviet Army had been agreed upon, as had views on dealing with financial and economic matters with regard to the law. They also agreed to carry out joint checks and evaluations of the ecological situation at sites where Soviet troops have been garrisoned.

With this purpose, a commission of the Federal Assembly chambers set up to monitor the withdrawal of Soviet units, headed by Michal Kocab, paid a visit to Bruntal district [North Moravia] today. Although the grounds of the barracks have been cleaned in an exemplary way, the oily haze hovering above the freshly turned earth gave rise to the suspicion that something was wrong. Underground tests are being made by the Brno (?geotechnician).

Some of the commission members visited Krnov, from where the Soviet troops have completely withdrawn. The damage they have caused, however, is estimated at Kcs 27 million. At an evening meeting with several thousand Bruntal citizens, Michal Kocab assessed the visit to the Bruntal and Krnov barracks. He said what he had seen filled him with cautious optimism, because the Soviet units were showing an evident wish to resolve the complicated situation.

Journalists Group Sends Protest to Gorbachev

LD1104204890 Prague CTK in English 1629 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Prague April 11 (CTK)—The International Organization of Journalists (IOJ) is strongly protesting against your arbitrary decision to bar foreign journalists from covering events in Lithuania. The Secretariat of the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ) stressed in its letter sent to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev today.

This act runs counter to the policy of "glasnost" proclaimed by you which has gained great international prestige for yourself and the Soviet Union, the letter underlined.

CSFR Applies To Join Council of Europe

LD1104214390 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1930 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Czechoslovakia has applied for full membership in the Council of Europe. This was announced today in Strasbourg, the headquarters of that organization in which 23 European countries are affiliates. Czechoslovakia is now the fourth East European country to seek full membership in the Council.

CDU's De Maiziere Elected Prime Minister

LD1204113490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1116 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The chairman of the CDU [Christian Democratic Union], Lothar de Maiziere, was elected prime minister of the GDR in a secret ballot by the People's Chamber today [12 April] in Berlin, with 265 votes in favor.

Figures Given for Vote

LD1204130390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1147 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—CDU [Christian Democratic Union] Chairman Lothar de Maiziere was elected chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers on Thursday morning [12 April] by the People's Chamber deputies. In a secret ballot, 265 voted for him, 108 voted against. Nine deputies abstained. [passage omitted]

De Maiziere Cabinet Nominations

LD1104193990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1801 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Lothar de Maiziere, GDR prime minister- designate, presented the list of names in the cabinet to the international press in Berlin this evening, following the successful conclusion of the coalition talks.

The members of the government are:

Minister in the Prime Minister's Office: Klaus Reichenbach (CDU [Christian Democrat Union]);

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Internal Affairs: Dr. Peter-Michael Diestel (DSU) [German Social Union];

Minister of Foreign Affairs: Markus Meckel (SPD) [Social Democratic Party];

Minister of Regional and Local Affairs: Dr. Manfred Preiss (BFD [League of Free Democrats]);

Minister of Economics: Dr. Gerhard Pohl (CDU);

Minister of Finance: Dr. Walter Romberg (SPD);

Minister of Trade and Tourism: Sybille Reider (SPD);

Minister of Justice: Prof. Dr. Kurt Wuensche (BFD);

Minister of Food, Agriculture, and Forestry: Dr. Peter Pollack (no party allegiance, proposed by the SPD);

Minister of Labor and Social Affairs: Dr. Regine Hildebrandt (SPD);

Minister of Disarmament and Defense: Rainer Eppelmann (DA [Democratic Awakening])

Minister of Youth and Sport: Cordula Schubert (CDU);

Minister of Family and Women's Affairs: Dr. Christa Schmidt (CDU);

Minister of Health: Prof. Dr. Juergen Kleditzsch (CDU);

Minister of Transportation: Horst Gibtner (CDU);

Minister of the Environment, Nature Protection, Energy, and Reactor Safety: Prof. Dr. Karl-Hermann Steinberg (CDU);

Minister of Post and Telecommunications: Dr. Emil Schnell (SPD);

Minister of Construction, Urban Planning, and the Housing Sector: Dr. Axel Viehweger (BFD);

Minister of Research and Technology: Prof. Dr. Frank Terpe (SPD);

Minister of Education and Science: Prof. Dr. Hans-Joachim Meier (no party allegiance, proposed by the CDU);

Minister of Culture: Herbert Schirmer (CDU);

Minister of Media Policy: Dr.Gottfried Mueller (CDU);

Minister of Economic Cooperation: Hans-Wilhelm Ebeling (DSU);

Government Spokesman: Matthias Gehler (CDU);

Parliamentary State Secretary to the Prime Minister: Dr. Guenter Krause (CDU);

ADN Lists New Cabinet Members

LD1204145390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1406 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Members of the cabinet of GDR Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere, elected today by the People's Chamber, are:

—Minister in the Prime Minister's Office: Klaus Reichenbach [Christian Democratic Union—CDU];

—Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Internal Affairs: Dr. Peter-Michael Diestel (German Socialist Union) [DSW];

—Minister of Foreign Affairs: Markus Meckel (Social Democratic Party] [SDP];

—Minister of Regional and Local Affairs: Dr. Manfred Preiss (League of Free Democrats) [BFD];

—Minister of Economics: Dr. Gerhard Pohl (CDU);

—Minister of Finance: Dr. Walter Romberg (SPD);

—Minister of Trade and Tourism: Sybille Reider (SPD);

—Minister of Justice: Professor Kurt Wuensche (BFD);

—Minister of Food, Agriculture and Forestry: Dr. Peter Pollack (no party allegiance, proposed by the SPD);

—Minister of Labor and Social Affairs: Dr. Regine Hildebrandt (SPD);

—Minister of Disarmament and Defense: Rainer Eppelmann (Democratic Awakening) [DA];

—Minister of Youth and Sport: Cordula Schubert (CDU);

—Minister of Family and Women's Affairs: Dr. Christa Schmidt (CDU);

—Minister of Health: Professor Dr. Juergen Kleditzsch (CDU);

—Minister of Transport: Horst Gibtner (CDU);

—Minister of the Environment, Nature Protection, Energy and Reactor safety: Professor Dr. Karl-Hermann Steinberg (CDU);

—Minister of Post and Telecommunications: Dr. Emil Schnell (SPD);

—Minister of Construction, Town-planning and the Housing Sector: Dr. Axel Viehweger (BFD);

—Minister of Research and Technology: Professor Dr. Frank Terpe (SPD);

—Minister of Education and Science: Professor Dr. Hans-Joachim Meier (no party allegiance, proposed by the CDU);

—Minister of Culture: Herbert Schirmer (CDU);

—Minister of Media Policy: Dr. Gottfried Mueller (CDU);

—Minister of Economic Cooperation: Hans-Wilhelm Ebeling (DSU).

Further on Cabinet

LD1204150190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1401 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The new GDR Government was elected by the People's Chamber today with 247 votes.

In Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere's cabinet there are 23 ministers, including four women. The deputy prime minister is German Socialist Union [DSU] General Secretary Dr Peter-Michael Diestel, who is also minister for internal affairs. As agreed in the coalition negotiations, the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] has, with the office of prime minister, eleven posts, the Socialist Democratic Party [SPD] seven, the Liberals three, the DSU two, and Democratic Awakening one post.

There are two nonparty ministers, nominated by the CDU and the SPD, respectively.

The average age of the members of the cabinet is 45. The youngest minister is CDU politician Cordula Schubert, who was born in 1959 and is minister of youth and sport. The oldest cabinet member is 63-year-old SPD politician Dr. Walter Romberg, minister of finance. Fifteen ministers are academics with PhD's; Minister of Justice Professor Dr Kurt Wuensche is the only politician of this circle who has had several years of experience as a member of government.

De Maiziere Outlines Government's Tasks

LD1204140690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1227 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—"I am prime minister of this country and I have to protect and preserve these citizens and their interests," GDR Prime Minister de Maiziere (Christian Democratic Union) told journalists immediately following his election today. As much as possible, he added, this should take place "in agreement with the interests of the citizens of other countries".

His government will, as part of a unified state, now work for a state treaty for economic, monetary, and social union with the Federal Republic. "We stress that we can see this only as a triad, only in alliance with one another. And I hope that the negotiations will start very soon and that a good result will be acheived, because this is, I believe, the factor that at the moment contains the most uncertainty. And if we can solve this in a satisfactory way I believe that people here, too, will be able to show a little more patience."

Great attention must be paid to problems of the national and international surrounding areas "in order to accomplish this unification process in a way that is implementable, comprehensible, and reassuring for our neighbors." The question of the pace of this is a "very risky one" at present, because it can "be influenced only to a limited extent by government action. But you can assume that here we want to show a little moderation."

Lothar de Maiziere sees an "unbelievable pressure of expectation" on his cabinet. "We must deal with things that lie months, years, and decades in the past. And we must withstand this tension between the high pressure of expectation and that which is really possible and feasible. This, I believe, will be the main difficulty with which we will all have to cope. And this is why it is important to me that a clear majority has entrusted this to me. And I will do my best."

He said that the next tasks are the solving of problems of, among other things, the economy, agriculture, and education. In some cases time alone must have its effect and have a "healing influence." First of all he would like a certain period of grace, which under international custom is 100 days. "If we are given just 10 I would be very thankful."

De Maiziere 'Government Statement' 19 Apr

LD1204132190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1205 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere will give a government statement to the People's

Chamber on the Thursday after Easter [19 April], the new government spokesman Matthias Gehler said today in his first announcement. After the statement, commencement of negotiations with the federal government on the state treaty on economic, monetary, and social union is planned.

The government spokesman stated that it is the aim of the coalition to realize the unity of Germany following negotiations with the FRG on the basis of Article 23 of the Basic Law "rapidly and responsibly" for the entire GDR at the same moment, and to thereby contribute to the European peace order. The new government will effectively represent the interests of GDR citizens at negotiations on the state treaty and negotiations on the modalities.

According to Gehler, one proceeds from the position that a united Germany will be a member of NATO until the creation of an all- European security system, under the condition that NATO strategies valid to date are abandoned.

On the coalition agreement, the government spokesman explained that guidelines for the competence of the prime minister were included. Parliamentary initiatives, which objectively exceeded the coalition agreements, needed discussion and the unity of all parliamentary groups concerning content and procedure in the coalition commission chaired by Lothar de Maiziere.

Further on People's Chamber Agenda, Tasks

LD1204113590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1000 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The GDR parliament will address the public with a joint statement of the People's Chamber at its second session. This emerges from the agenda, which was passed by the deputies after serious clashes concerning an additional item on a change to the Constitution.

Further items are the establishment of the tasks of the temporary investigative commission of the supreme people's representation on the Stasi problem. Spokesmen of the parliamentary groups will speak on this. A statement on the formation of the government is then planned in which candidates for the new cabinet will also be presented. Following the election of the Council of Ministers chairman, for which Christian Democratic Union [CDU] head Lothar de Maiziere is the candidate, the possibility exists of addressing questions to the 23 candidates for ministerial posts, including four women. Following the election of the government, a change to the Constitution is planned because of a new oath. The initial controversial debate, lasting around 45 minutes, concluded with a CDU success in the vote. The swearing-in of the government will then take place.

There will then be discussion of the composition of the permanent commissions of the parliament.

Debates Stasi Committee Tasks

LD1204105190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0946 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The People's Chamber is debating formulation of the tasks for its temporary investigation committee in connection with the Stasi past.

A motion presented on this matter by all parliamentary groups urges that each group also be represented on the committee. In the event of activity for the former State Security Service, the relevant deputies will be advised to give up their seats. This can occur on a recommendation from the committee.

Each group was allowed three minutes to speak in the debate.

Forms Stasi 'Problem' Committee

LD1204122290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1104 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (ADN)—The most important part of today's second People's Chamber session in Berlin was the presentation of the cabinet members by the prime minister-designate, Lothar de Maiziere. [passage omitted]

With three abstentions, the deputies approved a decision on the tasks of the ad hoc committee of inquiry into the Stasi problem. The body was instructed to examine the files of those deputies concerning whom there is suspicion of official or informal cooperation with the former Ministry for State Security Office for National Security. In a debate by all parliamentary groups on this issue, representatives denounced the unconstitutional machinations of the "sword and shield of the party" (DSU) [German Social Union], which had proved a "socialist devil's hammer" (SPD) [Social Democratic Party]. This process of overcoming the past must be such "that all deputies can face the people openly" (PDS) [Party of Democratic Socialism]. The Christian Democratic Union recommended that the committee, in which every parliamentary group is to be represented, should be kept as small as possible to guarantee confidentiality. Those deputies who might then be implicated would be advised to resign from the People's Chamber. [passage omitted]

Commemorates Victims of Fascism, War

LD1204104490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0950 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Berlin (ADN)—The first freely elected GDR parliamentarians accept the responsibility of the Germans in the GDR for their history and future. This was affirmed today by all parliamentary groups of the People's Chamber in an almost unanimously passed joint statement. It was read out by parliament President Dr. Sabine Bergmann-Pohl as the first agenda point of the People's Chamber meeting. The deputies stood to commemorate the victims of the war, fascism, and Stalinism. [passage omitted]

Before the statement was passed there was a serious and controversial debate on the agenda. The Christian Democratic Union had proposed that a new agenda item be adopted which foresees a change to the oath for government members. In this business order debate, which lasted for over 45 minutes, there were sharp clashes concerning the legality of the motion presented and the two votes on it. Deputies from the Buendnis 90/Green Party parliamentary group left the chamber. The agitated atmosphere manifested itself in interruptions directed at the president, such as "This is even worse than it was with your predecessors!" Dr. Sabine Bergmann-Pohl was accused of biased actions. Lothar de Maiziere requested a break in proceedings and stated: "What is happening here is not worthy of this supreme house!" After the break the decision was announced that the motion would be adopted into the agenda, but that it would be dealt with in two readings.

Statement Assumes Guilt for 'Genocide'

LD1204105890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0953 GMT 12 Apr 90

["Text" of People's Chamber "joint statement"—ADN headline]

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—We, the first freely elected parliamentarians of the GDR, recognize the responsibility of the Germans in the GDR for their history and their future, and declare unanimously to the world:

Immeasurable sorrow was caused by Germans to the peoples of the world during the time of National Socialism. Nationalism and racial delusion led to genocide, in particular of the Jews from all European countries, of the peoples of the Soviet Union, of the Polish people, and of the Romanies and Sintis. This guilt should never be forgotten. From it we should derive our responsibility for the future.

1. On behalf of the citizens of this country, the first freely elected parliament of the GDR recognizes joint responsibility for the humiliation, expulsion, and murder of Jewish men, women, and children. We feel grief and shame and acknowledge this burden of German history.

We ask the Jews throughout the world for forgiveness. We ask the people in Israel to forgive the hypocrisy and hostility of the official GDR policy toward the State of Israel and the persecution and degradation of Jewish fellow citizens in our country even after 1945.

We resolve to do all in our power to help to heal the spiritual and physical suffering of the survivors and to support a just reimbursement of material losses.

We consider it our duty in particular to promote and to protect the Jewish religion, culture, and tradition in Germany and to provide lasting care and preservation of Jewish cemeteries, synagogues and memorials.

We see it as a particular task to raise the young people of our country to respect the Jewish people and to impart to them knowledge of Jewish religion, tradition, and culture.

We advocate granting asylum in the GDR to persecuted Jews.

We resolve to work for the establishment of diplomatic relations and diverse contacts with the State of Israel.

2. We, the deputies of the first freely-elected parliament of the GDR, have a deep-felt need to address the following statement to the citizens of the Soviet Union:

We have not forgotten the dreadful suffering which Germans inflicted on the people of the Soviet Union in World War II. This violence which emanated from Germany ultimately struck our people themselves, too. We want to intensively continue the process of reconciliation between our peoples.

Therefore, our concern will be to integrate Germany into an all- European security system in such a way as to guarantee peace and security for our peoples.

We are aware that the reshaping in our country would not have been possible without the new thinking and perestroyka in the Soviet Union. We are grateful to the citizens of the Soviet Union for the encouragement and stimulation which we have received from them in this respect. We feel closely bound to them in tackling the legacy of Stalinism and working for democracy.

Proceeding on the basis of the changing conditions in our countries and the new trends in international relations, we shall strive with the peoples of the Soviet Union for a constructive policy for peace and international cooperation. In this spirit, we propose that the existing treaties with the Soviet Union should be adapted to the new realities gradually and by agreement.

3. The GDR People's Chamber confesses to the GDR's shared guilt for the suppression of the "Prague Spring" in 1968 by Warsaw Pact troops.

The illegal military intervention inflicted great suffering on the people of Czechoslovakia and delayed the process of democratization in Eastern Europe by 20 years. The entry of the People's Army violated Article 8 (2) of the GDR Constitution.

Through fear and faint-heartedness, we did not prevent that breach of international law. The first freely-elected parliament of the GDR asks the peoples of Czechoslovakia for forgiveness for the injustice committed.

4. Through their peaceful revolution in autumn 1989, the population of the GDR overcame the divisive effect of the antihuman intra-German border. Now, the two parts of Germany are to grow together and thus promote the formation of a pan-European peace order within the framework of the CSCE process.

We perceive a special responsibility in bringing our relations with the peoples of East Europe, which have grown historically, into the European unification process.

In this connection, we again solemnly declare that we unconditionally recognize the German borders with all neighboring states which arose as a result of World War II.

The Polish people, in particular, should know that their right to live within secure borders is not questioned by us Germans through territorial claims now, nor will it be in the future.

We affirm the inviolability of the Oder-Neisse border with the Republic of Poland as the basis for our peoples to live together peacefully in a common European home.

This shall be confirmed by treaty by a future all-German parliament.

[Signed] Berlin, 12 April 1990. The parliamentary groups of the GDR People's Chamber.

Bergmann-Pohl on Accusations Against Deputies

AU1104221290 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 6 Apr 90 p 1

[Interview with People's Chamber President Sabine Begmann-Pohl by Carola Schuetze; place and date not given: "Work Without Party Egotism"]

[Text] [Schuetze] Congratulations on your election as People's Chamber president. Do you think that you are already completely aware of the consequences of these elections?

[Bergmann-Pohl] I can certainly not yet understand the scope of what I am facing, not least because I have known only since Monday [2 April] that the group of the Christian Democratic Union of Germany wanted to put me up as candidate for the office of People's Chamber president. In general, the past few days were terribly exciting. On the one hand, I told myself: If there is so much trust put in me, I have to face up to the task. After all, we women are accused of retreating when we are faced with political responsibility. I did not want to give credence to this accusation.

I hope that I will have the strength which I need for this new office. The religious service, which took place before the beginning of the People's Chamber session today, gave me much of this strength.

[Schuetze] As a politically committed person you have certainly dealt with the work of the People's Chamber long before the elections. Which impressions have been particularly lasting?

[Bergmann-Pohl] What "emerged" during the People's Chamber sessions after the change, often went beyond the limit of what is tolerable. The machinations of the Stasi [State Security Service], the cases of personal enrichment and abuse of office have caused me great pain. In particular the machinations of the Stasi made me struggle in a politically sensitive time.

I regret that those forces, which introduced the changes to an essential degree, drew the short straw in the course of the events. For me this is an additional incentive to exercise my work in a really nonparty way.

[Schuetze] How do you see the strain, which the new People's Chamber has to bear because of the accusations against some members that they formerly worked for the Stasi?

[Bergmann-Pohl] I am afraid that it is the intention of certain forces not to permit the new People's Chamber, which for the first time was elected in a truly democratic way, to become capable of working. This must not happen in any cause, because there are still far too many people emigrating. Of course, investigations have to be held, and it is natural that I myself have been investigated. But the investigations must go hand in hand with the immediate, speedy work of the People's Chamber on many important issues.

[Schuetze] What do you wish for the future work of the supreme people's representation?

[Bergmann-Pohl] I wish business-like, constructive work, which is not impeded by any party egotism.

Sections of Stasi Network Allegedly Still Active

LD1104215790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2010 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Mainz (ADN)—Massive doubts were again cast today on the cessation of the activity of the State Security Service in the GDR. In an interveiw for the program "Studio 1" on ZDF [FRG 2nd TV program], a man, speaking anonymously who is supposed, according to that station, to have been a high-ranking State Security officer, claimed that parts of the state security apparatus are still active today. For instance, Federal German institutions, from the Chancellery to party headquarters, are still being tapped by the "telecommunications intelligence" department. The high-grade radio installations were disguised as part of the National People's Army's equipment. Secret files are also still being maintained and were secretly smuggled out of the rooms guarded by the citizens' committees. Core Stasi departments are now integrated into ministries, the National People's Army, and "branches of the Soviet secret service, the KGB."

In reply to any inquiry from ADN this evening, the press and information service of the GDR Government pointed out that a similar report in the newspaper 'DIE WELT' was already rejected last weekend. Lies will not gain the substance of truth by being constantly repeated, it said.

Former Stasi Officer on Stasi Activities

AU1204063090 Mainz ZDF Television Network in German 1815 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Interview with a "former high-ranking officer of the GDR State Security Service who had access to the Politburo and who asked not to be identified, because he is being persecuted and threatened," by ZDF correspondent Wolfgang Kramer and unidentified ZDF moderator on the "Studio I" program; interviewee is seen in silhouette and voice is disguised; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [ZDF] How did you view the days of the revolution in October? For how long did Mielke and others believe they could quell it by force, and what role did Egon Krenz play, for instance?

[Stasi officer] I would say that the whole phase—in July, August, until September—was marked by a total paralysis, which included the security apparatus. I read at the time how the West was speculating on where the State Security Ministry was operating in Hungary, in the refugee camps, and how the ministry worked. Comparing what I read with reality, almost nothing of what went on in the ministry [passage indistinct].

Meanwhile, I have read Krenz' book with considerable interest, and before that, his articles in BILD. I've read what Mr. Schabowski wrote in STERN. I read statements and articles of other politicians. The most important factor of these October days is missing in all these statements—a secret meeting in the State Security Ministry in Mielke's office on the morning of 8 October. The participants were Mielke, Krenz, Schabowski, Dickel, and Security Department Secretary Herger.

At that meeting, the course was set in several respects: First, the overthrow of Honecker which was practically decided by these persons—in particular Mielke, Krenz, and Herger—late in August. In addition, however, there was discussion and resolution on how to carry out this overthrow without causing political convulsions in the GDR.

On the basis of what I know, I would like to mention only two things that Egon Krenz told leading staff members of the ministry. First, the State Security Ministry will promptly provide more information about the real state of affairs in the GDR. Second, he made an appeal for their readiness for action, their readiness to promptly smash the counterrevolutionary structures in the GDR.

As a result of this meeting, in all offices of the State Security Ministry—on the national, regional, and local levels—the course was set on 8 October, with their readiness for action being increased. We did not go home on the nights of 9 and 10 October. We all expected that what we knew about the result of this meeting and the strategy, in particular regarding the demonstration in Leipzig on 9 October, would be carried out. The strategy was clear—the deployment of the State Security Ministry special task forces and the responsibility of the main department [word indistinct], including the newly developed troops which had proved successful in Dresden—the deployment of riot police, the deployment of the party militia, and—and this was new in the situation—for the first time, alerting the Army units. In fact, judging by what we knew at that time, we had to assume that except for the fact that it was strictly prohibited to use firearms, every possible use of force was considered.

What Krenz describes in his memoirs—his trip by plane to Leipzig together with the three deputies of the Interior Ministry, the State Security Ministry, and the National People's Army—did not primarily serve to de-escalate the situation but rather served as preparations for splitting and smashing the demonstrations.

[ZDF] So Krenz, too, considered resolving the situation by using force.

[Stasi officer] I would not say, Krenz, too. I would say, Krenz in particular. Judging by what I learned during those days, I must confirm, with complete conviction, what Honecker announced personally, namely, that on 8 October, in his capacity as National Defense Council chairman, he signed the order, prepared by the State Security Ministry, to smash the demonstrations by force; however, by 1800, he gave orders not to use force.

After nothing happened, so to speak, we were informed on the morning of 10 October in a sort of apology that the general secretary—which he still was—had changed the line that had been agreed upon.

[ZDF] Being a State Security insider, how far did you intend to go during these days?

[Stasi officer] The names of dissidents were registered on internment lists; internment camps were prepared. These things marked alert exercises and the State Security's interest during the last 15 or 20 years. Every operational department had lists that had to be continuously updated on persons who had to be interned in three categories.

In these October days, activating these lists also formed part of preparatory planning, including, for instance, the Erfurt citizens' committee. It was a fixed ritual to test the alert installations of the main departments of the State Security Ministry bezirk administrations twice every year. The exercises included getting hold of opposition forces.

We had index cards which were continuously activated for these alert exercises. They contained two or three categories regarding opposition forces—the category of prompt detention and internment, and the category of control, observation, and restriction of the freedom of movement. Until five or six years ago, nobody knew where the camps were. Because the alert exercises were discussed (?critically) time and again, the [word indistinct] in particular also dealt with this problem of preparing internment camps in recent years. That means that what has been found out about these internment lists is only the top of an iceberg.

I should add that the State Security Ministry had developed into huge dimensions. I do not know where the figure 85,000 comes from. To my knowledge, it had 115,000 full-time staff members, special task officers, and [word indistinct].

[ZDF] And the number of informers?

[Stasi officer] I think it is much higher. Considering in addition their high professionalism and their diligence—I must say that they were no fewer. The case of Wolfgang Schnur also shows that the State Security Ministry was at the most neuralogic points. There was the requirement not to be satisfied with small informers, but our goal was—and you can read it in documents and speeches by Mielke last year and the last meeting late in August—to develop or (?recruit) leadership personages at these neuralgic points, and to steer the whole organizations into a different direction via these leadership personages, according to the theory of using the train's locomotive and not the cabosse.

[ZDF] How should the relationship between the State Security Ministry and the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] be assessed? Can we really say that it was the shield and sword of the party, or is this a somewhat banal political description?

[Stasi officer] Listening to Egon Krenz today, and referring to large sections of your press, I note that the term, state within the state, is used, and that the SED ranked after the State Security Ministry. That not only distorts the historic facts, it will also make it very difficult to find the historic truth regarding individual facts. The State Security Ministry was the shield and sword of the party—totally. The control of this ministry was total; and on the part of Mr. Krenz, it was the total knowledge of [words indistinct]. The basic orientations of the State Security Ministry's activities came from his office, from him personally, because he was the security secretary.

The fact that politicians of the Party of Democratic Socialism [PDS] are hardly the goal of any disclosures, can, of course, be easily explained. [Words indistinct] and this also explains the party's dominant position: The State Security Ministry was strictly prohibited—under penalty of being abolished—to develop or recruit as unofficial staff members party officials, including officials of the Free German Youth. To that extent, it will never be possible to find files on unofficial staff members who today hold leading positions in the PDS. I must stress that again.

[ZDF] Are the hardliners in the former State Security Ministry possibly collaborating with hardliners in the present PDS now? Does this explain some of the current political processes in the GDR?

[Stasi officer] Absolutely. That is a team which, being in need now, is closing its ranks rather than drifting apart. The present leadership has managed it in this way. This contains a lot of explosives. What I am more concerned about is the category that I would call the hard core—those who are still in the offices, who still have access to the files, who are still able to destroy, remove, or use what will come up in the near future—these anonymous commands that are developing there.

[ZDF] How do you assess the state of the disbanding of the former State Security Ministry? Have mistakes been made? To what extent can its remainders be reactivated, or are they even being reactivated?

[Stasi officer] As I view things now, I understand that it was impossible to disband the ministry without the help of insiders, meaning staff members of the State Security Ministry. On the other hand, I must tell these citizens' committees that they have retained the hard core of the State Security Ministry. The most fanatic, the most pig-headed, and the most narrow-minded leading State Security Ministry staff members have been kept as a result of the decisions made in the last two weeks of December and the first two weeks of January.

The citizens' committees are working in the belief that they control what is going on in the State Security Ministry. However, it is this category of former State Security Ministry staff members which have the real power over, and the real access to, the files. It is the usual thing to secretly remove files from the State Security Ministry. I do not think that the citizens' committees are a match for these staff members and department heads of the State Security Ministry. I respect the idealism of these citizens' committees. However, judging by what I have personally seen from the beginning, I realize that even though there is a lot of good will, there are [words indistinct].

Mr. Modrow certainly could put his own files of the State Security Ministry on the table at any time. After all—and this is strange and also illustrates the relations within the SED leadership—he was [words indistinct] by the head of the Dresden Bezirk Administration, Major-General Boehm, by the express instruction of Honecker which was conveyed by Mielke, because of high treason. I know that after the Dresden Bezirk Administration had been stormed—in other words, after the closets of Boehm had been opened—Mr. Modrow also obtained these files from his personal aide who was a member of this group of three persons in Dresden.

Since then, I have understood Modrow's public appearances, and the anger and bitterness manifesting itself against the State Security Ministry.

In my view, Markus Wolf is one of the most outstanding personages of the former regime in the GDR. From early on, Mr. Wolf was pro-Soviet, has always been a close friend of the Soviet Union, and he has always said so. Mr. Wolf also played the decisive role at the secret meeting in the Soviet Embassy in East Berlin in the second week of November, when Mr. Falin arrived by military plane from Moscow.

Mr. Wolf was probably present during all the talks which were conducted with Mr. Krenz when the Soviets recommended that he resign, and the talks which were conducted with Mr. Modrow when they recommended that he save as much of the GDR as he could.

Do not forget one thing: Not only Mr. Wolf, but all the leading staff members of the State Security Ministry had very close relations with the Soviet State Security organs—the KGB. Liaison officers, former advisers, of the KGB worked in the State Security Ministry to the last minute.

[ZDF] That means that Markus Wolf might try to hand certain operational parts to the KGB.

[Stasi officer] It means that he initiated it. The department that Mielke headed directly, was reduced two years ago, and was incorporated into the Main Administration Department, worked in this nerve center for the SED Central Committee—by order and under the control of the SED Central Committee—for the case X, as they called the phase preceding armed clashes. This department also had to create a very specific category of agents in the Federal Republic as well. What was needed there was creating and steering agencies able to destroy communication lines, damage water works, put nuclear power plants out of operation, and other things. That is a terrible and dark chapter of the story, which has to be digested.

I see the Federal Republic's security interests greatly threatened by the existence of such fully trained and qualified agents.

[ZDF] Do you think that the possibilities of telephone surveillance still exist? Who in the Federal Republic was under observation and monitored? Is this telephone surveillance still being continued?

[Stasi officer] I assume that the core of radio intelligence of the State Security Ministry—Main Department Three—has been maintained. A number of [word indistinct] were certainly given up, and as a result, a number of technical possibilities were lost. However, considering that in the environs of Berlin alone, three important objects were excellently camouflaged as objects of the National People's Army—not even the mayors of the municipalities had any idea that the State Security Ministry was present there—and considering that the GDR's radio intelligence was the most effective part of the operational activities of the State Security Ministry, meaning that there were hardly any arrests of agents or there was hardly any significant information about the Federal Republic that was not covered by the radio intelligence service, I cannot conceive of anybody having decided to totally disband Main Department Three.

[ZDF] What was monitored?

[Stasi officer] The question should be, what was not monitored? Depending on the technical possibilities, monitoring was focused on whatever came from or went to West Berlin. [Words indistinct] No matter whether we were dealing with the more recent history: Talks between the FRG Embassy in Vienna and authorities and agencies in the GDR in connection with the escape of GDR citizens were monitored and analyzed. No matter whether we were dealing with the past. In connection with intelligence requirements of the Central Committee prior to political events in Inter-German relations or in international relations, parties, organizations, or government structures had to be monitored—whatever was technically possible was monitored and used, and our technical possibilities were excellent.

SPD Gives 'Green Light' to Grand Coalition

LD1104164290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1443 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The SPD [Social Democratic Party] parliamentary group has given a "green light" to a grand coalition government with the three alliance parties and the Liberals. This was stated by SPD parliamentary group head Richard Schroeder following a session of the body. The parliamentary group assumes that the SPD negotiating groups will conduct the talks to their end and will need no new vote from the parliamentary group. It was also said that the grand coalition will be in place by early tomorrow.

Party, Group Chairmen Sign Coalition Agreement

LD1204083690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0727 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—The parties involved in the new GDR Government signed a coalition agreement this morning in the People's Chamber building in Berlin. The agreement, entitled "Principles of the Coalition Agreement Between the Parliamentary Groups of the Christian Democratic Union, the German Social Union, Democratic Awakening, the Liberals (German Forum Party, League of Free Democrats, Free Democratic Party) and the Social Democratic Party of 12 April 1990," was signed immediately prior to the start of the second parliamentary session by the party and parliamentary group chairmen. [passage omitted]

Principles of Party Coalition Signed 12 Apr

LD1204090190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0732 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The goals of the grand coalition between the parliamentary groups of the Christian Democratic Union, the German Socialist Union, the Democratic Awakening, the Liberals, and the Social Democratic Party are outlined in the preamble to the "Principles of the Coalition Accord" signed today. The formation of such a coalition for the period of the growing-together of the two German states is explained there with reference to the special situation in the GDR since 9 November 1989. To solve the tasks which are on the agenda in the process of the unification of the two parts of Germany, it is necessary to put the interests of party tactics last.

The document lists the following as the coalition's goals:
—To ensure prosperity and social justice for all citizens of the GDR;
—To implement liberty and the principles of the rule of law;
—To realize the unity of German swiftly and responsibly for the whole of the GDR simultaneously after negotiations with the FRG on the basis of Article 23 of the Basic Law and thus to make a contribution to the European peace order.

"In elaborating a new GDR Constitution or, in the event that does not come about, in amending the Basic Law, the government's aim in negotiations is to introduce social rights to protection as legally inviolable individual rights," the preamble to the accord goes on. This applies especially to the right to work, housing, and education. "These rights are guaranteed in the form of decisions on state goals," the document says.

The groups represented in the coalition are in agreement, it also emerges from the document, which is dated 12 April 1990, that the contents of the arrangements to be agreed between the GDR and the Federal Republic, "especially the expected state treaty on the creation of a currency, economic, and social union must correspond in their fundamentals to today's accords between the groups represented in the coalition."

There is also agreement that the process of German unification should be with parliamentary involvement. The People's Chamber and the Bundestag should each set up a parliamentary committee on German unification, and the parliamentary president should be a member of both. These committees should meet regularly and should constitute the joint committee on German unity.

The preamble also states that the coalition partners have agreed on the details of the joint policy contained in the document of principle, "with the reservation that they can be financed." The coalition committee will discuss questions of financing, which are bound up with fundamental political decisions, where they are viewed differently by the coalition partners. This committee should reach joint decisions in the spirit of the coalition agreement and cooperation in partnership.

Added to the document in the form of several appendices are the concrete textual agreements on the principles of the policies of the future government in, among other things, the following areas: foreign and security policy, development policy, internal and legal policy, social and health, economic and financial policy, environmental protection and energy, agriculture and forestry, culture, science, the media, and education.

A concluding remark notes agreement that in all the areas addressed, the main positions are to be decided from the point of view of suitability, and independent of party affiliation. Existing decisions on personnel, and those taken up until the take over of government, are to be examined where necessary according to the criteria of a state based on the rule of law.

De Maiziere on Unification, GDR Identity

AU1104181790 East Berlin NEUE ZEIT in German 9 Apr 90 p 1

[NZ/ADN report: "Lothar de Maiziere: Link Between East and West"]

[Text] Madrid (NZ/ADN)—The economic, financial, and social union between the two German states must be implemented as soon as possible, Lothar de Maiziere stated in an interview for the Spanish newspaper EL INDEPENDIENTE on Sunday [8 April]. However, he does not want to name a date in order to prevent speculators from gaining an advantage. In the one-page interview, the premier designate answered several questions on his country's most burning problems.

In answer to a question about a certain GDR identity, he said that the generation of the 50-year-old people will never be able to dissociate itself from the GDR. He also does not know whether this is really desirable. In his opinion, a new generation which orientates itself by the East and the West might develop. In this process, the GDR could become more orientated to the West, while Germany as a whole could become more oriented to the East.

In answer to the question what the present GDR can contribute to the greater Germany, de Maiziere mentioned first of all experienced and tested human solidarity. Referring to the right to work, de Maiziere pointed out the latent unemployment that existed in the GDR. Its price is high and the economic result is visible, he said. As regards work, one has to proceed from a human right, but also from a claim that always has to be acquired anew. He thinks that the right to housing can be pushed through. Property questions in the GDR cannot be solved from one moment to the next, the development toward private property must take place within reasonable period.

Ernst Addresses Vienna Talks, Replies to NATO

LD1204112790 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0827 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Vienna (ADN)—The head of the GDR delegation at the Vienna negotiations on conventional forces in Europe, Ambassador Klaus-Dieter Ernst, has advocated the conclusion of a disarmament treaty this year "which is open to adjustment to later political and military developments." Speaking today to a plenary session of the 23 delegations, he defended the conceptional formulation contained in the treaty drafts of "two groups of states," which, according to Ernst, have been overtaken by political developments on the continent "and will probably become obsolete in the not-too-distant future." It is in the interests of all to support such an agreement, "Which will lead without any great loss of time to a reduction in the number of the weapons systems to be limited by the treaty from the present figure of some 300,000 to around half of that." [passage omitted]

On the same day, Ambassador Ernst presented a draft inspection protocol to the treaty on conventional armed forces on behalf of the Warsaw Pact states. He said this paper is "a reply, not a counterproposal," to the draft NATO presented seven weeks ago. There is agreement on the structure, on around 70 percent of the statements on content, and on large parts of the formulations. This is normal, since all participants in the negotiations are aspiring to strict, intensive, and reliable verification of the treaty. The GDR representative conceded that the draft also contains differing stances on the Western proposal, alongside blank spots where the opinion-forming process within the Group of Seven has not yet been concluded.

In his speech he singled out the NATO quota estimate, which requires "impractical" expense on inspection. For instance, an average of four teams would be on the move in Europe each day, although all types of inspection will not have been covered yet. On the other hand, there will be "zero quotas" for three of the 23 states. "Simple counting-off" might have proved its worth in the case of the INF Treaty, involving 5,000 units, but it cannot be carried out now, where there are around 300,000 weapons systems and hundreds of thousands of soldiers to be limited.

Coalition Agreement Addresses NATO Membership

AU1104114690 Hamburg DIE WELT in German 11 Apr 90 p 4

[Hans R. Karutz report: "Coalition Agreement Provides for Germany's Membership in NATO 'For the Time Being'"]

[Text] Berlin—During the upcoming "two-plus-four" talks of the victorious powers and representatives of the two German states, the GDR will agree to a united Germany's membership in NATO. However, the corresponding draft of the coalition agreement contains the restriction that NATO membership will only be accepted "for the time being." The document proceeds from the assumption that an all- European security system involving the United States, the USSR, and Canada should be created in the foreseeable future. Until then, German soldiers should be deployed on GDR territory "who will be responsible for defending this territory, and who must not receive orders from NATO and not be part of the Bundeswehr."

The East bloc countries can only be expected to accept NATO membership of a united German state if the West "gives up" its current defense strategy, the document continues. According to the draft of the coalition agreement, the future GDR Government headed by Lothar de Maiziere (Christian Democratic Union) is striving for a "drastic disarmament of all German Armed Forces." The armies of both German states (Bundeswehr plus National People's Army) should not be larger than the amount of U.S. or Soviet troops stationed in Central Europe. The draft also contains the stipulation that the rights of the four victorious powers "concerning all of Germany" should be annulled at an appropriate point of time. The secretary general of the Christian Democratic Union [CDU], Martin Kirchner, stated on Tuesday morning [10 April] at the beginning of the presumably last round of talks among the grand coalition that a united Germany should be a member of NATO—"but not the GDR as a separate state," he stressed.

Referring to Germany's membership in an alliance at the end of the scheduled unification talks between East Berlin and Bonn, the document states: Unification "must not endanger European security." The new government intends to submit detailed proposals for the planned new security system, "together with the FRG Government, if possible," at the CSCE follow-up conference due to be held in the fall. Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze recently spoke in favor of a possible "third way" for Germany—between neutrality and NATO membership in the military sphere as well.

The documents used during the coalition talks also mention 1 July as the date for the introduction of the monetary, economic, and social union. All three aspects of the union "must be implemented at the same time (1 July 1990)," the authors stress. All savings, wages, salaries, and pensions should be exchanged at the disputed rate of 1:1. CDU Secretary General Kirchner stressed yesterday before the beginning of the new round of talks that 1 July (the summer vacation also starts on 1 July in the GDR) would be the "ideal date." However, the coalition will probably not insist on a "fixed date."

The authors of the draft of the coalition agreement also mention the Oder-Neisse border. "The existing borders will be laid down in a border treaty, to be initialed by the two Germans states and Poland, and to be signed after unification by the German government and to be ratified by the parliament (of the united Germany—the editors)."

The agreement also contains comprehensive stipulations concerning social protection—such as protection against eviction, housing allowance, and far-reaching rent restriction.

Two Soviet Missiles Explode Accidentally

LD1204121490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1110 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Demmin (ADN)—Two air-to-ground missiles were exploded today due to a technical fault during take-off preparations of an SU-25 ground attack aircraft belonging to the Western Group of the Armed Forces of the USSR at the airfield in Tutow, Demmin district. One of the missiles exploded at the airfield, and the other damaged part of the drying plant of the Tutow storage area of the Demmin publicly owned cereals factory. No one was injured.

Cuban Minister Comments on Bilateral Relations

LD1104220690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1645 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Havana (ADN)—The Cuban first vice minister of foreign relations, Jose Raul Viera Linares, has expressed Cuba's interest in continuing the close relations with the GDR after the change of government in Berlin. Answering questions of the ADN correspondent in Havana he declared: "As with all other countries with which we have relations of friendship and respect like with the GDR, we are watching with interest the political change that is taking place. At the same time we hope that the relatons of cooperation and the contacts between Cuban and GDR citizens will not be affected by this." There were many questions about the future development of cooperation, and the GDR's foreign relations will depend not only on its new government, but also on the process of unification with the FRG.

During the last 30 years very close relations of friendship and cooperation developed between the GDR and Cuba, between their institutions, enterprises and peoples. The GDR was, said the vice minister, involved in the most important investment projects in Cuba, trade between the two states attained a high volume, and the GDR trained hundreds of Cuban engineers and workers. The further development of these diverse and valuable relations will now depend on the will of the present GDR leadership and on the fulfillment of bilateral agreements.

Cuba's view is that the unification of the two German states must be the result of a sovereign and independent decision of the peoples of both countries. In this the international commitments of both states will have to be respected. Cuba has normal relations with both parts of Germany and is hoping that these relations can be continued in the future.

White House Spokesman Cited on Relations

LD1204083890 Budapest MTI in English 0650 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Washington, April 12 (MTI)—"The free elections held in Hungary are a further step in strengthening the country's democracy, and this opens up greater scope for the development of bilateral ties," a deputy White House spokesman told MTI's Washington correspondent Roman Popaduik.

"We witnessed with great pleasure the way the people of Hungary practised their right of self-determination.

"The formation of the democratic Hungarian government, and the emergence of new ideals and methods could bring about an even greater improvement in the economic, social and other links between our two countries. The USA attaches particular importance to this, as was indicated, for instance, by President Bush's visit to Budapest last year," the spokesman stated.

Asked what practical steps Budapest can expect from the American side in the new situation, besides the approval in principle, and whether there would be an opportunity for the new prime minister to visit Washington, the spokesman said, "this possibility cannot be ruled out".

The new U.S. ambassador to Hungary will probably be appointed in the very near future, Mr Popadiuk said.

As was made known last autumn, the ambassador designate is Charles Thomas, career diplomat, who has been learning Hungarian for the past six months.

He replaces ex-ambassador Mark Palmer, who unexpectedly left the diploamtic service a few months ago after the U.S. State Department turned down his request to be posted to Moscow after the expiry of his assignment in Budapest.

Mr Palmer is now director of an American investment corporation which has interests in eastern Europe.

Szuros on Tenure as Interim President

AU1104181390 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 10 Apr 90 p 6

[Report on interview with Interim President Matyas Szuros by Agnes Marvanyi; place and date not given: "Half A Year in the Position of President of the Republic—It Is Possible That the New National Assembly Will Be Convened by the End of April"]

[Text] Matyas Szuros began his career as interim president of the Republic with a memorable historical event, namely by proclaiming the Hungarian Republic, and will soon end this career by convening the freely elected and democratic National Assembly. Our correspondent interviewed him about the experiences he has accumulated in the last six months.

[Marvanyi] When you became the interim president six months ago, you said that you would play a coordinating role in this position. You are still facing a rather important task in this coordinating role: conducting negotiations and coordinations prior to convening the new National Assembly. Have the consultations with the various parties already begun?

[Szuros] My staff has already begun the expert-level negotiations. These negotiations will be followed by my meetings with the heads of parliamentary parties. We will probably hold bilateral consultations aimed at reaching an agreement on nominating people for parliamentary functions.

[Marvanyi] What will be your task in these negotiations?

[Szuros] At most, I can initiate things and come up with proposals, and naturally I can provide various information to the heads of the parties in question. I cannot influence their decisions with specific proposals because, in this case, I would behave like a party leader, and the task of the president of the Republic is to promote an agreement by being above party interests. Besides, during the preparations for the founding session, this coordinating role refers to coordinating the time and the agenda of the meetings. I must also hold consultations on the timing of handing over the presidency to the ranking member among the newly elected parliamentary deputies.

[Marvanyi] Could these consultations not have been started earlier in order to avoid a possible delay in convening the founding session of the National Assembly, a delay deriving from extended negotiations?

[Szuros] The Alliance of Free Democrats [SZDSZ] and the Alliance of Young Democrats [FIDESZ] had already claimed that the parties should negotiate about the post-electoral situation. However, these negotiations were held at the level of experts at most, and only dealt with general issues like the future of the state administration apparatus or the tasks of the police and the Army. Besides, we would not have been able to agree on the nomination of officials because we did not know which would be the strongest party in the Parliament. Besides, according to the Constitution, only the heads of parliamentary factions have the authority to make proposals on personnel issues. However, I think I will be able to convene the founding session of the new National Assembly by the end of April, and this founding session will certainly last several days.

[Marvanyi] In this founding session, you will step down from the position of president of the Republic because, according to the Constitution, the new chairman of the National Assembly fulfills this post. However, according to a recent interpretation of the Constitution, the position of interim president lasts until the election of the final president of the Republic. If the Constitutional Court accepts this interpretation, you would continue to be the president until the presidential elections....

[Szuros] In my opinion, the Constitution says clearly that my function lasts until the election of the new chairman of the National Assembly. If there is any rational core to the aforementioned possibility, it is only the fact that it would really serve stability if the changes did not take place simultaneously in every power sector. However, the parties themselves can see that, and if they want, they can do something about this.

[Marvanyi] When you were elected as chairman of the National Assembly, did you think that you would soon be able to proclaim the Hungarian Republic, in your position as president of the Republic?

[Szuros] Although I was aware of the ongoing changes, I did not envisage such a rapid change and I did not think I would participate in such moving events. Indeed, I have been granted great tasks in these historical six months: In addition to proclaiming the republic, I also participated in preparing the free and democratic elections.

[Marvanyi] Beginning with the roundtable negotiations, you participated in the parties' coordinating talks, and you even organized quite a few consultations. You are quite familiar with these parties' political views. In your opinion, what kind of coalition could be formed in Hungary? What has the greater chance: a stable government or anarchy?

[Szuros] Everything depends on whether we succeed in carrying out the change in power on a wide basis and at a proper pace. If we fail in forming a coalition that is able to guarantee a two-third majority for decisions, the current crisis might continue, because the Parliament would not be functional for a longer time. Basically, a grand coalition is foreign to democratic systems because it has no real control and a strong opposition. Everything depends on the election results.

[Marvanyi] A long debate was going on at the time on whether we should have a strong or a weak president and on what authorities the Parliament should give to this position? According to your experience, what is this new branch of power like after all?

[Szuros] In my view, this institution of president of the Republic turned out to be weaker than envisaged by those who created it. This also shows that we are currently living in a transitional period. As an interim president, I did not have the opportunity to develop the presidential office, and the permanent president will have to carry out this task. It has been rather difficult to fulfill this position without adequate professionals, legal experts, economists, military experts, and with a rather modest apparatus. A lot of things are still unclear: Because of a lack of regulations, the Council of Ministers is deciding on issues which are in the jurisdiction of the president. A new system of decorations must be set up, and the issue of providing amnesty must also be settled, to name just a few of the tasks. In the current situation, the president is unable to take full responsibility in these issues. If the president of the Republic had been elected in November, according to the original plans, the interim situation would have ceased and the presidential office would also have been set up.

[Marvanyi] What are your plans? What will you do if you step down from the position of interim president?

[Szuros] This depends on the election results. I will probably continue to work in the Parliament.

Assembly To Hold Constituent Session 2 May

LD1104221990 Budapest MTI in English 1932 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 11 (MTI)—The senior representatives of the six parliamentary parties held a consultation in the parliament building on Wednesday at the initiative and invitation of Matyas Szuros, Interim president of the Republic of Hungary.

The consultation, which focussed on the main tasks of the founding session of parliament, was attended by Jozsef Antall, president of the Hungarian Democratic Forum, Peter Tolgyessy, executive of the Alliance of Free Democrats, Vince Voros, president of the Independent Smallholders' Party, Rezso Nyers, president of the Hungarian Socialist Party, Viktor Orban, representative of the Federation of Young Democrats, and Sandor Keresztes, president of the Christian Democratic People's Party.

Mr. Szuros told MTI that the meeting was aimed at finding the most suitable time for convening the founding session of the new parliament.

On the basis of the consultation, Mr Szuros has convened the founding session for May 2.

Agreement has been reached on the schedule of the session, Mr Szuros said.

After a festive opening ceremony, the interim head of state will deliver a speech.

Honorary guests to be invited to the founding session will include Bela Varga, speaker of the National Assembly in 1946-47.

The official programme will start with the appointment of a speaker by seniority and four minute-takers.

The speaker by seniority will probably be Kalman Keri, who won a mandate on a HDF [MDF] list, and the minute-takers the four youngest MPs.

As stipulated by law, the national Electoral Committee and the acting minister of the interior will report on the elections.

The sides exchanged views on personnel issues as well, and agreed to continue the talks on expert level.

They also agreed, Mr Szuros went on, that personnel proposals would be put forward to parliament by the heads of the party groups.

The party leaders shared the view that proportional representation would be required among the chief office-holders and in the committees. All six parties should delegate members to the committees, but the senior committee posts should be distributed proportionately.

It will be a matter for further agreement how many deputy speakers are elected. At the consultation, three seemed acceptable to the parties.

The formation of parliamentary groups also needs further clarification.

The expert talks are to be resumed on Thursday.

On April 13, the leaders of the party groups will hold a meeting, to be followed by a similar consultation of party and group leaders in late April, Mr Szuros said.

MTI has obtained a draft, worked out by parliamentary experts on the basis of the current standing orders, about the schedule of the founding session.

Besides, the items mentioned above, MPs will take an oath, and appoint an acting speaker of parliament, since the new speaker will immediately become the interim head of state.

The Council of Ministers will resign, and MPs determine the order of sessions, and set up standing and other committees.

It remains to be seen whether the interim president of the Republic will give the commission to form a government as early as the first session.

MSZP Proposes Congress for 26-27 May

LD1204095790 Budapest MTI in English 0730 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 12 (MTI)—The Hungarian Socialist Party (HSP) [MSZP] is expected to hold its congress on May 26-27. The Wednesday session of the party's presidium decided to propose the above date to the party's National Board.

The preliminary agenda of what will be the HSP's second congress will include debates over reports by various party bodies, amendments to the party's statutes—if necessary—and the election of party officials. The board's decision over the Presidium's proposal is due on Saturday.

The Presidium also confirmed its earlier decision to move its national headquarters and leadership to a new location in Republic Square this week after Easter.

Former party headquarters in Jaszai mari Square is expected to be handed over to new government—complete with furnishings—in the course of of this month.

Nyers Comments on Election; Congress in May

LD1104220790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] The MSZP [Hungarian Socialist Party] does not consider the results of the current parliamentary elections to be a defeat, because the party did not count on a success. This is what Rezso Nyers, party chairman, told IZVESTIYA. The politician said that the MSZP will hold an extraordinary congress in May, because in the autumn of last year it adopted a program as a governing party.

Now, however, it is necessary to draft the platform of an opposition party. Rezso Nyers emphasized that the MSZP and the Alliance of Free Democrats [SZDSZ], as opposition, will exert pressure from opposite directions on the government. SZDSZ demands a rapid development of market relations; the Socialists, however, consider the social protection of people to be important. [Budapest Domestic Service at 1800 GMT on 11 April in a similar report adds: "The opposition MSZP will hold its congress at the end of next month. The presidium proposes to the party's national board that the congress be convened on 26 and 27 May. The purpose of the Congress is to decide on possible modifications of the MSZP's basic statutes and on the election of new leaders."]

Nemeth Receives Romania's Karoly Kiraly

LD1104120990 Budapest MTI in English 1048 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 11 (MTI)—Karoly Kiraly, vice president of the Romanian Provisional National Unity Council, was received on Wednesday in the parliament building by Hungarian Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth.

Their informal exchange focused on the development of Hungarian-Romanian relations. The issue of a democratic advance in Romania was also on the agenda of discussions, including the conditions influencing the life of ethnic Hungarians.

At the meeting, held in a cordial atmosphere, both sides shared the view that the people of Hungary and Romania can only contribute to strengthening the new European processes by assuming mutual responsibility and through the respect of individual and collective minority rights.

Refugees Flee Transylvania, Threats of Violence

LD1104223890 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2000 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Why are intellectuals fleeing en masse from Transylvania? Eva Cseh reports from a refugee camp near the border:

[Begin Recording] [Cseh] This young woman came with four children from Tirgu Mures to Hungary:

[Unidentified woman] Well, the reasons were rather pressing. We were persecuted and fled from home. I feel that there wil be no peace between the two nations, at all. Identification papers are checked on the roads. If you are Magyar it is not precluded that you might be beaten up. So there are constant threats. They might be discrete, but they exist. The atmosphere is very oppressive.

[Cseh] The refugee camp is a true beehive. Dr. Attila Peto, director of the camp, does not know where he stands:

[Peto] That is so. We are at the point where 30-40 people are arriving in the camp daily. These, for the most part, are families with small children. At the moment there are 56 children in the camp.

[Cseh] Primarily now they have come from the Szekler region, and they are Magyars.

[Peto] Only Magyars are coming over, from the Szekler region, from the region inhabited by Magyars. They say that it is not their conditions of existence or livelihood which are in danger, but their lives. The report has spread that the various nationalist elements are preparing for a settling of scores at Easter. The atmosphere is so tense, they feel themselves to be so insecure, that they are fleeing en masse. Someone said that in Tirgu Mures an entire housing estate is preparing to come over. They close the doors and simply set out into the world.

[Cseh] I do not know why precisely Easter should be the watershed.

[Peto] What is said is that Christmas belonged to the Magyars; Easter will be for the Romanians. [end recording]

Six-Month Oil Contract With USSR Signed

LD1104124790 Budapest MTI in English 1148 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 11, 1990 (MTI-ECONONEWS)—The Hungarian FTO Mineralimpex, the Hungarian Oil Land Gas Corporation (OKGT) and Soviet suppliers have signed the contract for Soviet oil deliveries to Hungary for the first half of the year.

At variance with the former practice when contracts were made for a year, the Soviet party has now agreed to six months only. Another half-year contract is to be signed on expiry of this one.

The Soviet Union has duly delivered to Hungary the 1.23 million tonnes of oil contracted for the first quarter of the year. The agreed amount for the second quarter is 1.57 million tonnes. Last year the Soviet Union supplied Hungary with 6.5 million tonnes of oil, and agreed and inter-state agreement to deliver 6.48 million tonnes this year.

Nemeth Receives Canadian Finance Minister

LD1204023190 Budapest MTI in English 1753 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 11 (MTI)—Miklos Nemeth, chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, met Michael Wilson, Canadian minister of finance, in the parliament building, Budapest, on Wednesday.

Mr Nemeth gave briefs on the main processes under way in Hungary, and the political situation emerging after the elections.

Mr Wilson, who arrived in Hungary at the invitation of Deputy Prime Minister Peter Medgyessy, also held talks with his host.

Mr Medgyessy spoke about the measures the government would have to take without delay, and outlined the new possibilities of bilateral cooperation.

On Wednesday, the Canadian minister of finance met Jozsef Antall, president of the Hungarian Democratic Forum, Laszlo Bekesi, minister of finance, and representatives of the Blue Ribbon Commission.

Szuros, Thailand's Sarasin Discuss Relations

LD1204030890 Budapest MTI in English 1732 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 11 (MTI)—Matyas Szuros, interim president of the Republic of Hungary, met Thai Deputy Prime Minister Phong Sarasin in Budapest on Wednesday.

Mr Szuros informed his guest on the current political events in Hungary, pointing out that the Thai politician was visiting Hungary just after the parliamentary elections that had opened up new vistas for Hungary.

Mr Szuros expressed the conviction that the new coalition government would maintain continuity in Hungary's international relations, and further develop ties with Thailand and the other states in the Asian region.

Mr Sarasin expressed his government's interest in maintaining high-level contacts with Hungary and the unbroken development of Hungarian-Thai relations.

Horn Meets Korean Trade Promotion Official

LD1204022890 Budapest MTI in English 1825 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Budapest, April 11 (MTI)—On Wednesday, Foreign Minister Gyula Horn met Sun-ki Lee, chairman of the Korea Trade Promotion Corporation, who is heading a large delegation of industrial experts to Hungary.

The meeting was attended by Han Tak-chae, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Hungary.

Soviet Soldier Suspected of Shooting at Train

LD1104193890 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungar4qian 1700 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] A Soviet soldier is suspected of having shot at a train in Budapest. According to the investigation so far, the loaded pistol of the conscript on duty in the Soviet barracks at the corner of Kerepesi Road and Pongracz Road went off by accident. The bullet hit the conductor's cabin of the train, which was approaching the Kerepesi Road overpass. The scattered fragments of an electric switch slightly injured, the conductor, 41-year-old (Attila Boereoc). The Hungarian police, on the basis of available data, has handed the matter over to the Soviet military prosecution.

Walesa Intention 'To Help Poland Reform Itself'

LD1104214490 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2000 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Lech Walesa, during a meeting with journalists, when asked about running for the office of president, replied: An announcement from me will result most likely in my not becoming president. I treat this as a fact which is to help Poland reform itself, and not as a fact of taking over power. He added: Lech Walesa for president means that it is necessary to speed up reforms, but not to take up a stance.

Carnogursky Arrives on Familiarization Visit

LD1004001790 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2030 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Jan Carnogursky, deputy premier of the Czechoslovak Government, arrived in Poland today for a three-day visit. During a news conference at the airport, he said he wants to become acquainted with the current situation in Poland, with the activities of political parties, with the transfer of Poland from a totalitarian system to democracy, and with which laws are being adopted.

Meets Skubiszewski, Others

LD1004221890 Prague CTK in English 1630 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw April 10 (CTK Correspondent)—Czechoslovak Deputy Premier Jan Carnogursky, currently on a three-day visit to Poland, met here today with Marshal of the Sejm (parliament) Mikolaj Kozakiewicz.

The marshal of the Sejm informed the guest of the division of political forces in the Polish parliament and pointed out in this connection that with regard to the dynamic political development in Poland, last year's round table agreements between the then communist government and the opposition are losing topicality today.

Jan Carnogursky spoke of the continuing political, social and economic changes in Czechoslovakia and added that Czechoslovakia has been often drawing lessons from the rich experiences of Poland.

Great attention was devoted to the legislative activities of the two countries' parliaments.

Jan Carnogursky also met with Chairman of the Civic Parliamentary Club Solidarity Bronislaw Geremek to deal with the course and results of the Czechoslovak-Polish-Hungarian summit meeting in Bratislava.

Czechoslovak Deputy Premier Jan Carnogursky met here today with Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski to discuss results of the Czechoslovak-Polish-Hungarian summit meeting in Bratislava. They stressed that close coooperation among the Central European countries is a significant factor of the all-European cooperation.

Jan Carnogursky conferred also with minister-member of the Council of Ministers Aleksander Hall about the topical tasks of the main political forces in their countries.

In the evening the Czechoslovak guest met with chairman of the Labour Party Wladyslaw Sila-Nowicki and with representatives of the Christian National Organization.

Assesses Bratislava Meeting

LD1004181790 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1700 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Excerpt] The Czechoslovak deputy premier, Jan Carnogursky, who is visiting Poland, has had a very tense first day's stay. After working talks with the head of the Office for the Youth Fund and Youth Exchange, Wojciech (Hart), and after acquainting himself with the Polish party system, he was able this morning to visit Warsaw's Old Town Square and the Royal Castle, and to lay wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and at the grave of Father Jerzy Popieluszko.

Before noon, Deputy Premier Carnogursky visited parliament, where he met the Sejm speaker, Mikolaj Kozakiewicz, and the chairman of the Citizens' Parliamentary Floor Group, Bronislaw Geremek. The most important point of the day was a meeting with foreign affairs minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski, after which I asked the deputy premier for a short interview.

[Begin Carnogursky recording, in Polish] During the meeting with Minister Skubiszewski, he assessed the meeting in Bratislava. This for me was very pleasant, since it was a Czechoslovak initiative. Minister Skubiszewski also presented his vision regarding Poland's relations, and not only Poland's [word indistinct] European states in the future. The issue is for the initiatives of these states to be in some way coordinated. I will be giving information on Minister Skubiszewski's views in Prague, and I think that they will meet with the support of the Czechoslovak Government. [end recording]

Further meetings took place in the afternoon and evening with Minister Aleksander Hall, with the Chairman of the Labor Party Wladyslaw Sila-Nowicki, and with representatives of the Christian-National Union. [passage omitted]

Talks With Geremek

LD1004204190 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Czechoslovak Deputy Premier Jan Carnogursky (?has paid) a visit to Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski. Earlier, he had a meeting with Sejm

Speaker Mikolaj Kozakiewicz. He said he wanted to make use of Polish legislative experience; to acquaint himself with the Polish road from a totalitarian to a democratic system.

The meeting with Chairman of the Citizens' Parliamentary Floor Group [OKP] Bronislaw Geremek was attended by Senate Deputy Speakers Andrezej Wielowieyski and Jozef Slisz. They talked about yesterday's summit in Bratislava. Jan Carnogursky, who didn't take part, was very interested in its course.

[Begin recording] [Geremek] In a sense, for me this was a continuation not only of yesterday's discussion, but also of a somewhat earlier meeting, when we were already considering how to form a new axis of political cooperation between North and South; and we thought that there, between our countries, between Czechoslovakia and Poland, important working contacts could be consolidated. We also talked today about the specifics and about how to set up commissions, working groups.

[Carnogursky, in Polish] Poland is always half a step ahead of Czechoslovakia, in the sense of political and economic reforms, and therefore Poland's experiences are very important and interesting for Czechoslovakia. Professor Geremek was absolutely right when he said that if the Bratislava meeting was to fulfil its significance, specific steps must follow in various specific areas, and I want to inform the Czechoslovak Government about this, and to make it my business to see that these specific steps (?take effect). [end recording]

Discusses Relations With Walesa

LD1104214990 Prague CTK in English 1956 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw April 11 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Deputy Premier Jan Carnogursky, currently on a three-day visit to Poland, met with leader of the Polish solidarity Lech Walesa in Gdansk today.

The Czechoslovak deputy premier told CTK they discussed development of Czechoslovak-Polish relations and cooperation, including the question of local border traffic the Polish side considers extremely significant.

"I am of the opinion that local border traffic should be renewed as soon as possible without any other conditions and waiting for the improvement of the economic situation", Jan Carnogursky said.

"An urgent problem I discussed with the Polish partners was the way of enabling Polish believers to travel to Czechoslovakia during the visit of Pope John Paul II without any bureaucratic restrictions", the deputy premier pointed out.

Jan Cernogursky met today also Adam Michnik, Zbygniew Janas and other friends from the Solidarity and the Polish-Czechoslovak Solidarity.

Favors Abolishing Border

LD1104215690 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2100 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Jan Carnogursky, deputy premier of Czechoslovakia, after his Gdansk meeting with Lech Walesa stated that, according to him, the border between Poland and Czechoslovakia should be abolished, and if he were authorized he would do this as early as tomorrow.

Jaruzelski Receives Canada's Mazankowski

LD0604231190 Warsaw PAP in English 1900 GMT 6 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 6—President Wojciech Jaruzelski today received Canadian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture Donald Mazankowski, now in Poland as head of the economic mission of the Canadian Government.

A conviction was voiced that the visit, that shows a growing interest of Canadian political and economic circles in developing cooperation with Poland, initiates a new stage in Polish-Canadian relations. The recent visit to Canada by Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki provided new stimuli to develop this cooperation.

Donald Mazankowski and Vice-Premier and Minister of Agriculture and the Food Industry Czeslaw Janicki, taking part in the meeting, told the president about the results of the talks and the contents of international agreements signed during the visit, particularly on the mutual support and protection of investments and cooperation in agriculture and the food processing industry.

Poland, Canada Sign Radio, TV Agreement

LD0704053490 Warsaw PAP in English 2125 GMT 6 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 6—Polish 3rd radio programme is to receive from Radio Canada International RCI Network information, documentary and music programmes in Polish in tune with an agreement signed today in the presence of Canadian Deputy Prime Minister Don Mazankowski between Radio Canada International and the Polish Radio and Television.

RCI is offering training courses for Polish journalists, sound and video engineers and managers at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in various fields including information policy in public radio and television network in conditions of democracy and political pluralism.

Polish radio and Television offered to the round-the-clock CBC Newsworld channel their weekly reviews of current developments in Poland.

Jaruzelski, Mazowiecki Return From Bratislava

LD0904211590 Warsaw PAP in English 2056 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 9—Poland's President Wojciech Jaruzelski, Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki and Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski returned from Bratislava late in the evening today where they had taken part in the meeting of the top politicians from Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland.

GAZETA WYBORCZA on Bratislava Meeting

LD0904111890 Warsaw PAP in English 1040 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 9—Commenting on a meeting of politicians from central European states starting in Bratislava today Adam Michnik wrote in GAZETA WYBORCZA today:

"The idea of agreement and rapprochement of Polish, Czech, Slovak and Hungarian nations is not directed against the people of the Soviet Union. It also does not have an anti-German goad. The role of democratic restructuring in the Soviet Union is obvious for democratic processes in Eastern Europe.

"The end of Communism created a great chance for our nations, a chance for a democratic and prosperous society. We wish to believe that our countries may return to Europe through the road used by Spain, Portugal or Greece, from dictatorship to democracy, from poverty to wealth.

"Chauvinism, xenophobia, intolerance, particularism in each of our nations are the main pitfalls on that road.

"The fact that the first summit is being held in Bratislava inclines towards optimism. It commands to believe that a positive scenario is possible. New roads of Polish foreign policy should follow the southern route towards Prague, Bratislava, Budapest and other capitals and the northern route, towards Scandinavia. This is the way to build Poland's place in Europe," concluded the editor-in-chief of GAZETA WYBORCZA.

Genscher Supports Skubiszewski Initiative

LD1204023990 Wasaw PAP in English 1901 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Bonn, April 11—FRG Foreign Affairs Minister Hans- Dietrich Genscher, addressing the CSCE economic conference at the end of its three-week debates in Bonn, declared Bonn's support for Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs Krzysztof Skubiszewski's suggestion expressed several days ago concerning the elevation of Polish-German cooperation to higher forms.

"If the Polish minister of foreign affairs proposes a German-Polish community of interests, then I can only praise such idea," said Genscher and added: "Poland and Germany may do a lot for the building of a new Europe, our wish is for the united Germany to be closely linked with its neighbour—Poland."

Referring to border controversies, Genscher said: "We are aware that the final character of Poland's Western border is the primary condition of peace in Europe. As far as the forms of guarantees for the final character of the border are concerned, we will agree them with our Polish neighbour."

Balcerowicz on 'Side Effects' of Economic Program

LD0504114790 Warsaw PAP in English 1059 GMT 5 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 5—In his address to the Sejm here today Vice Premier Balcerowicz analyzed the first stage of the stabilization programme pointing out that it focused mainly on the difficult task of fighting inflation.

There appeared also unavoidable side effects, the vice premier continued, such as a drop in public real income and emergence of unemployment which does not exceed however 2 percent of the employed. There is also a drop in production in result of a radical change of management conditions and operation of market rules.

Balcerowicz Presents Program Developments

LD0504170890 Warsaw PAP in English 1453 GMT 5 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 5—Following are the main points of a speech delivered by Vice Premier Leszek Balcerowicz at a Sejm (lower house) meeting here today:

—The economic program started 4 months ago meant the necessity to combat sky-rocketting inflation and to build a modern market economy. During the first quarter of 1990 we managed to curb the raging inflation. There was a clear improvement of the situation on the market. We introduced the convertibility of the Polish zloty and ensured the stability of the exchange rate. The flight from the zloty was checked and the command system of managing the economy eliminated.

—The above-mentioned goals were achieved with heavy costs. The population's real incomes went down considerably in January and February. (The decline was mitigated to a considerable extent in March). The open unemployment which has surfaced does not exceed 2 per cent of the workforce. The margin of unemployment has also positive results, namely, it restores respect for work and improves its quality. We will aim at making the period of unemployment as short as possible.

—There was, however, a drop in production which in most cases followed a radical change of management.

—It would be dangerous to withdraw from the restrictive financial and credit policy too early as this would lead to a new inflation outburst.

—The adjustment actions cannot break the main assumptions of the program. The drop in inflation is followed by decreasing interest rates. One of the ways designed to get the economy out of the recession is to remove or ease limits on exports and to decrease customs duty on imports, especially of investment and raw materials.

—Favorable results of stabilization actions make it possible to start more profound changes of the economic system. The presented package of legal acts is designed to serve this goal.

—Amendments to the civil code and the code of civil procedure are designed to eiminate the to-date division of the economy into a socialized sector and a non-socialized one.

—We have already started to introduce ownership changes by means of the small-scale privatization which aims to provide tools for small businesses, mainly family ones and small companies.

—The presented draft laws make it possible for privatization to cover bigger state enterprises. We should aim at a market economy based on a broad participation of various forms of private ownership and one open to the world. The presented law on privatization opens up various roads. One of them is a public sale of shares. Employees will have preferences in buying 20 per cent of shares. There will be municipal property.

—The to-date results of stabilization actions were possible owing to society's fortitude and readines for sacrifice. Today, necessary is also dynamism and enterprise.

—A normal and real world is not far though it will be difficult to reach it. The changes proposed today should help us achieve this.

PAP Details Sejm Privatization Debate

LD0604034690 Warsaw PAP in English 2045 GMT 5 apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 5,—Privatization was the topic of the day at today's session of the Sejm (parliament's lower house). The chamber discussed governmental drafts, with the main one pertaining to the privatization of state-owned enterprises.

Vice-Premier Balcerowicz warned that it would be dangerous to give up too early the restrictive financial policy and opined that that would lead to the new surge of inflation. His address, though delivered but to present draft laws, was an economic expose of its kind.

Deputy Lopuszanski opened today's debate at the Sejm by criticizing the activities by the governmental commission which studies the legal state of the property of political parties and youth organizations, and of the national property. He said those activities failed to heed the expectations of the chamber and announced, on behalf of himself and a group of deputies, that a legislative initiative will be taken anew shortly as to the taking over by the state treasury of the property of the former PUWP (Polish United Workers' Party).

No deputy questioned the need for changing the ownership rights. Deputy Bogdan Lukasiewicz opined that society had to know the goal of privatization and profits it could bring about. Either the Sejm will make a decision similar to the law on the enfranchisement of peasants or the dreams about privatization will remain politicians' daydreams. The establishing of a capital market when citizens have no chances is unacceptable, he said.

The meeting also voiced concern over the fact that the foreign capital could assume control over the part of the economy.

The discussion was closed by Deputy Andrzej Milkowski who said that a deputies' draft on privatization of state-owned enterprises would be presented shortly as an alternative to government's proposal in this respect. The governmental draft was directed to an extraordinary commission to be set up by the Sejm on Friday.

The chamber also heard first readings of draft amendments to the Civil Code and Code of Civil Law Procedure.

The Sejm will resume the debate Friday morning, with the agenda including draft laws on police.

Peasant Parties To Unite at 5-6 May Congress

AU1204071390 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 6 Apr 90 p 1

[Bogumil Luft report: "One PSL at Last"]

[Text] Hanna Chorazyna, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Polish Peasant Party [PSL], has announced that a congress to unite all the different PSL factions will take place on 5 and 6 May, three weeks before the local government election. This decision was reached in Warsaw on Thursday at a meeting of 27 chairmen of the PSL voivodship branches that have emerged as a result of a fusion of existing rank and file peasant streams.

The meeting took place in the Sejm building on the initiative of Wladyslaw Zabinski, from PSL "Rebirth," and Hanna Chorazyna, who are also heads of so-called unification commissions appointed by these parties in order to conduct talks aimed at unification. The PSL activists assembled on Thursday will meet again on 10 April, probably already in the form of a congress commission chaired by Professor Stanislaw Dabrowski, chairman of the Wroclaw Voivodship branch of the PSL. It was also decided that the congress would be attended by 15 representatives from each voivodship.

RZECZPOSPOLITA telephoned Kazimierz Olesiak, chairman of the PSL "Rebirth", and Jozef Slisz, chairman of the PSL Solidarity, for comments, but they declined. Olesiak said he had not attended this meeting even though he belongs to the PSL "Rebirth" unification commission, but made it clear that he has always been in favor of seeking paths to unity.

Gabriel Janowski, chairman of the Private Farmers Solidarity, said that his union has always advocated a single peasant party and that it supports the process leading to a single party, on condition that the PSL "Rebirth" undergoes a genuine revival, and not just takes advantage of the full right to use the PSL name. He said that it will only be possible to assess what is happening now after the first fruits have been yielded. In his opinion, the economic situation is forcing people with a passion for politics to organize themselves faster than they normally would in a calm situation. He also regretted that some people who refer to the Solidarity name are still not adequately committed to abolishing the divisions in the people's movement and convincing others that this division is not permanent.

Peasant Party Elects New Chairman Kaszubski

LD0604211590 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0655 GMT 6 Apr 90

[Text] At a meeting of the Polish Peasant Party (PSL) Parliamentary Floor Group, deputy Roman Bartoszcz was recalled from the post of floor group chairman. The new chairman is deputy Tadeusz Kaszubski, previously deputy chairman and candidate member of the PSL Supreme Executive Committee.

Peasant Party Infighting Results in Suspensions

LD0804035690 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT 6 Apr 90

[Text] Franciszek Kaminski, the Polish Peasant Party [PSL] chairman, has suspended Hanna Chorazyna [PSL deputy chairman] from all her posts held in the PSL:

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] An illegal decision about holding a congress announced by Hanna Chorazyna and Wladyslaw Zabinski is another Targowica [historical reference meanig betrayal] in the peasant movement. Forces hostile to this movement, the countryside, and Poland have always tried to get us at loggerheads with one another and divide us. They acted against the idea of peasants to become a significant power in the country. This time they have found saboteurs within our ranks. This happens at a moment when peasant movement activists are being truly united and when they have a chance to win the local elections in the countryside.

Together with General Franciszek Kaminski, with the peasants and intelligentsia concerned about the good of the peasant movement, we have done an enormous amount of work. It was soon to bear fruit in full unification. This doubtless success has resulted in a furious attack of all forces foreign to us.

I am convinced this attack will also fail. I deeply believe the wisdom and common sense of peasants will win and that, desite all the obstacles, one strong Polish Peasant Party of national importance, which will have a genuine impact not only on the fate of the countryside but also on matters of the nation and the state, will come into existence.

Peasant movement activists and farmers! I am asking you to make your own judgment, draw your own conclusions, and come to the side which is in the right. Do not allow all what you have built with such effort to be destroyed.

[Signed] Kazimierz Olesiak, Chairman of the PSL Obrodzenie [Rebirth] [end recording]

Gen Drzazga Retires From Cabinet Post

LD1004215990 Warsaw PAP in English 1639 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 10—Following a motion by the minister-head of the Council of Ministers Office, the prime minister recalled today General Edward Drzazga from the post of chief inspector at the office.

General Drzazga tendered his resignation in connection with his planned retirement. The prime minister thanked General Drzazga for his work on the post.

Sejm Meeting Votes To Abolish Censorship

LD1104194590 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] The most important item of today's meeting of the Sejm is, of course, the abolishing of censorship. There were no deputies against, 266 voted in favor, and eight abstained. The Sejm also carried out changes today in the constitution. They will make possible the functioning of the local organs of the state administration after 30 April, when the term of office of the people's councils expires.

The second law passed by the Sejm applies only to the supplementary elections to the Senate in Lublin voivodship. This law aims at reducing the costs. The elections will be held jointly with elections to parish councils on 26 May, which will significantly reduce costs. Deputy Jan Lopuszanski of the Citizens Parliamentary Floor Group (OKP) has submitted a legislative initiative which proposes taking over the property of the former Polish United Workers Party by the State Secretary, and asked the Sejm presidium to insert this item on the agenda of the coming Sejm meeting [on 18 April].

Mazowiecki Appoints New Justice Officials

LD1204024990 Warsaw PAP in English 2041 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Warsaw, April 11—The prime minister appointed Anna Fornalczyk head of the Antimonopoly Office and at the motion of the justice minister nominated Aleksander Herzog first deputy prosecutor general.

Doctor of Economy, Anna Fornalczyk (43) is a scientific worker at the Department of Economics and Sociology of the University of Lodz, Solidarity member.

Aleksander Herzog (39), a graduate of law, was removed from the Prosecutor's Office after the imposition of martial law for his activity in the Solidarity, arrested in June, 1983 for work in the illegal solidarity radio in Krakow. Released as result of an amnesty, he continued work as a legal adviser in the national museum of Kracow, Solidarity member.

Government Urges Ex-King To Postpone Visit

AU1104134090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1313 GMT 11 Apr 90

["Statement of the Government of Romania"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 11/4/990—As is known, Romania's ex-king, Mihai of Hohenzollern, said he would like to come to Romania on a private visit for Easter, together with his wife and three of his daughters.

The Government of Romania showed understanding for that visit and even took certain steps along that line, including the granting of the necessary visas.

However, the mass media announcement of the intention of Romania's ex-king brought a strong reaction from several political forces in the country which stated their opposition. Several leaders of parties represented in the Provisional National Unity Council publicly stated their disagreement with the timing of the visit. This action and the publicity around it are seen as a political gesture apt to bring unwanted elements to the election campaign, fan new passions, and violence may occur. Therefore, the obvious danger has emerged that the ex-king become unintentionally involved in obscure manipulations that may affect his dignity, cast a shadow on his family. It is also obvious that there is a growing opinion as a result of the action taken in connection with the visit that there might be other interests at stake as well, of which the ex-king may not be aware.

Since this is happening in full election campaign and in conditions in which various extremist groups openly urge to violence, it is ever more obvious that the ex-king's visit in this period is of a nature to exacerbate the existing conflicts, and also put his personal safety in jeopardy.

In consideration of all this, the Government of Romania was brought in a position to suggest ex-King Mihai postpone his visit after the 20 May 1990 elections.

Former King Not To Postone Visit

AU1104162590 Paris AFP in English 1416 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Bucharest, April 11 (AFP)—Michael I, the former Romanian monarch, will go ahead with his visit to his homeland despite an official request here that he postpone the 10-day trip to avoid disrupting the general election campaign.

The official ROMPRES news agency said the Romanian government had asked the former king, who lives in exile in Switzerland, to hold off the visit until after the May 20 vote.

But members of his entourage, who have already arrived here, "thanked the Romanian authorities for their advice" but said the former king will "maintain his visit".

He is due to arrive in the capital Thursday for the first time since he was forced to abdicate in 1947.

He has emphasised it would be private and non-political and would take the form of a "pilgrimage".

The Romanian government said the visit would have fallen "slap in the middle of the election campaign", ROMPRES said.

At a time when "extremist organisations are openly inciting to violence", the government said it was "obvious... that the king's visit at this moment would only exacerbate existing conflicts, thereby jeopardizing his personal safety." [passage omitted]

Government Withdraws Entry Visa

AU1204071490 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 0400 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] ROMPRES has been authorized to announce the following:

Following a decision by Romania's Government to ask former King Mihai to postpone his planned visit to our country until a later date after the elections of 20 May 1990, the necessary steps were taken to convey this message to the former sovereign.

Although no direct contact was possible through the Romanian Embassy in Berne, confirmation was received from a family member that Mihai of Hohenzollern received the message. No further details were provided.

Under these circumstances, the Romanian side announced that the entry visa to Romania has been withdrawn and that appropriate instructions have been issued at points of entry to our country to act accordingly.

At the same time, the Romanian Embassy in Berne has informed the company Swissair, with which the flight was booked, that the entry visa to Romania granted to ex-King Mihai was no longer valid since it had been withdrawn by the Romanian authorities, and that therefore that company should take the necessary measures to avoid any violation of international regulations according to which passengers without an entry visa for the country of destination should not be taken on board the aircraft.

Within the framework of the action taken, in connection with the former sovereign, emphasis was again placed on the strong opposition of various major political forces in our country to this visit, the disagreement with the visit publicly expressed by several leaders of parties represented in the Provisional National Unity Council, the very negative impact the visit would have on the peace in our country, and on the safety of the former king himself. Regretably it has been noted that the former king and his entourage have failed to grasp the seriousness of the situation in persisting in their position to make a trip that is both untimely and harmful even to their own prestige.

Romania's Government hopes that the former king and his family, as well as public opinion in our country and abroad, will properly understand these responsible measures, which are prompted by most constructive reasons, out of concern first for the stability and peace of our country and then for the strengthening of the European and world trend toward understanding, cooperation, and mutual regard and respect.

Swissair Bars 'Pilgrimage'

AU1204092690 Paris AFP in English
0903 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, April 12 (AFP)—Romania's provisional government barred former King Mihai from returning home on Thursday after more than 40 years in exile, although the royal family said they would still try to make the trip.

The government cancelled the entry visa of the former monarch, who lives in Switzerland, and asked Swissair not to allow him on board its scheduled Zurich-Bucharest flight, the official ROMPRES agency said. The move came after the former king decided to go ahead with his 10-day visit, which he described as a non-political "pilgrimage", despite an appeal from the government to wait until after legislative and presidential elections on May 20. King Michael was forced to abdicate in 1947.

(A spokesman for Swissair in Zurich said that it had complied with the Romanian request in line with international regulations barring passengers from flying without entry visas for their destinations. However, an AFP correspondent in Geneva said the former king, his French-born wife Princess Anne de Bourbon Parme, and their eldest daughter Princess Margareta had boarded a Swissair flight from Geneva to Zurich, where the Bucharest flight was to leave from.

(The king refused to comment on the ban, but said he wanted to return to Romania "as a private individual for Easter, which is an important festival for us. My trip has nothing to do with the elections."

(Princess Margareta said they had heard of the Romanian government's decision on the radio and had been told by Swissair that they could not board the flight to Romania. "We'll try to find an alternative way to go to Bucharest," she said.)

The decision was taken to preserve peace and "stability", the government said in a statement carried by ROMPRES. The king could have been in danger because of opposition to his return, it said.

The king and his entourage "had not understood the seriousness of the situation and stuck to their decision to go ahead with an ill-timed journey", it said. His visa was withdrawn and officials at border points alerted.

When the king first said he was coming the authorities here described it as a visit by a "Romanian citizen like any other", but then changed their minds.

The severest critic has been Radu Campeanu, interim President Ion Iliescu's main rival in next month's elections.

He said the king's return during the election campaign was "inappropriate", and that "if King Mihai thinks that he is still wanted in Romania, he has the wrong impression".

But another significant contender for the presidency, Ion Ratiu, said, on behalf of the National Peasants Party, that King Michael was a "good Romanian" and that it could eventually be for the Romanian people to choose in a referendum between a republic and a monarchy.

The ex-king with an entourage totalling fewer than 10 people was to have stayed at a hotel in the centre of Bucharest. During visits to the provinces, he was to have stayed with people who invited him, or in monasteries.

His two other daughters, Elena and Sophia, are already in Romania, after bringing aid from Britain and Switzerland.

He was due to travel on a British passport. As a resident of Versoix, near Geneva, he obtained a diplomatic visa from the Romanian embassy in Switzerland.

Romanian Prime Minister Petre Roman told AFP on Thursday that the king was not Romanian but a "British subject". However, the king's entourage here said he had neither given up nor been stripped of his Romanian citizenship, and that he had a British passport as a courtesy because he was a "direct descendent of Queen Victoria." It did not confer British citizenship on him however, and the Swiss regarded him as a Romanian national without a passport.

King Michael, who is 69, represents the fourth generation of the monarchy founded in 1866 to stabilise the country. He acceded to the throne in September 1940 on the abdication of his father Carol II. He was forced to abdicate on December 30, 1947, under the threat that 1,000 young anticommunist demonstrators would be "executed".

The abdication, followed five days later by his departure into exile, made way for the proclamation of a people's republic.

Brucan on NSF Election Campaign 'Advantage'

AU0904122890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English
0949 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 9/4/1990—During his speech at the first national conference of the National Salvation Front [NSF], Silviu Brucan highlighted the fact that the political movement the National Salvation Front starts its election campaign with a great advantage. He argued his statement with some essential elements of the creation and existence of the National Salvation Front starting 22 December until now. Mr. Brucan showed that the large political capital of the National Salvation Front are the popular measures applied by the NSF which made it a political organization "of the people and not of the plunderers".

In his final address Silviu Brucan showed that the National Salvation Front bring no question of territory. "Any question on European borders would bring disarmament and peace into question" he opined.

Poll Shows NSF Leading Liberals in Rural Areas

AU0904123890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1004 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 9/4/1990—Almost three quarters of the batch (122 subjects) questioned one month ago by representatives of the Group for Social Dialogue together with those of the Romanian Television State (according to the "22" review) are pleased with the setting up of the Provisional National Unity Council. Over 80 per cent of the subjects are decided to exercise their right to vote. In the period the poll was taken, the voting intentions were primarily for the National Salvation Front, followed by the National Liberal Party, a relation reproduced by the popularity poll for political personalities, the return of which is: Ion Iliescu followed by Radu Campeanu. The Front's influence is, in relative terms, more important in the rural milieu, and that of the Liberal Party more in the urban milieu. The National Peasant Party's appeal seems to be equal in the two milieux, with the least of impact on the younger section of the electorate and the most on the elderly section. Of the other formations engaged in the election campaign, the Republican Party is the one to have some changes of being competitive.

Election options are not motivated by the parties' program platforms, but by their previous action and the confidence their leaders inspire.

Poll Shows Iliescu Leading in Popularity

AU1004113690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0919 GMT 10 Apr 90

["Election Campaign—Personalities Top"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 10/4/1990—Ion Iliescu still has the greatest popularity in Romania shows an opinion poll in the daily TINERETUL LIBER newspaper. The National Salvation Front's recently nominated candidate to presidency gathers a 62 percent from citizens' options asked to name the likely personality "to bring the people's welfare".

On second place came Radu Campeanu, another candidate to presidency and leader of the National Liberal Party with a 14 per cent, while the candidate to the same office of the National Christian Democratic Peasant Party and fourth seed Ion Ratiu (2.2 per cent) was outrun by Premier Petre Roman with a 5.5 per cent.

With a less than 2 per cent approval come other 16 personalities, among them party leaders, ministers, man of arts, Bishop Laszlo Tokes, Doina Cornea, ex-tennis player Ion Tiriac and King Mihai the first.

These data was computed on 6,938 subjects. The results of an opinion poll taken more than one month ago on 820 subjects were almost identical: Ion Iliescu 61.6 per cent, Radu Campeanu 14.1 per cent, Petre Roman 5.5 per cent and Ion Ratiu 2 per cent.

SPD Congress Supports Iliescu for Presidency

AU1104124490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1135 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 11/4/1990—The first congress of the Romanian Socialist Democratic Party was held in Braila between 9 and 10 April 1990. The delegates discussed and adopted the platform and statute of the party. A leading council and executive bureau have been also elected.

Professor Marius Carciumaru has been elected chairman of the party.

The congress decided to support Ion Iliescu, Provisional National Unity Council president, as candidate to Romania's presidency.

Iliescu Believes NSF To Win Elections

AU0904123390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1016 GMT 9 Apr 90

["Ion Iliescu's Interview"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bcharest, ROMPRES, 9/4/1990—I believe there are always alternatives. Other candidates have been announced—Mr. Campeanu and Mr. Ratiu. I would not comment on the chances, but it seems to me that the race is open. We still have more than a month before us. With the dynamic pace of developments in our country, a lot can happen in a month, including changes of opinion. What I can do is to commit myself to the programme we have announced and to which I have dedicated myself, and not to betray the expectations of the people who belive in me, said PNUC [Provisional National Unity Council] President Ion Iliescu in an interview with a ROMPRES editor.

I do not believe the NSF [National Salvation Front] will not win the election, Mr. Iliescu said. The question is what percentage of the vote it will get. But, whatever the conditions, I think that a coalition of forces can be achieved to form a government apt to take common action in the next 10-year term when a new constitution of the country will have to be written and continuity to be ensured in the economic, social and political life. In the economy, the problems remain complicated and a great effort will be required to lessen their negative impact on social life, on the quality of life. Then, there are also problems related to political stability and a general equilibrium in society. This calls for close cooperation, for the contribution of a broad spectrum of forces that are interested in a constructive programme.

We need a press law, said Mr.Iliescu in another line of ideas. I think that this is the root of many shortfalls and justified criticism of the press. However, the picture has changed remarkably from the past. The press is readable now and fulfills an active, constructive, important social role, no doubt about that. But there are also cases when information is manipulated, when there is a low sense of responsibility. It is on this line of the quality of the press, of journalism that more should be done. The press is a force, and the way information is used implies great social responsibility.

Opinion Poll on Difficulties, Improvements

AU0904145090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1314 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 9/4/1990—The review "22" publishes in its April 6 issue the return of the first opinion poll of a series started by the group for social dialogue (the review's editor) at the beginning of the year, that will continue until the May 20, 1990 elections, by cooperation with the radiotelevision, under a contract with the latter.

The opinions expressed in the poll were collected more than one month ago from 1122 subjects aged at least 18, residing in 115 urban localities and 159 rural localities all over the country and in Bucharest.

Asked about the country's general situation two months since the revolution, the subjects had to answer what were the main improvements and major difficulties of the moment. Almost two thirds of the total pointed to a political improvement—freedom of the press, and an economic improvement—supplies to the population. The granting of the right to strike and for pupils and students the right to organization were the least endorsed. Farmers appreciate for the most part (almost three quarters) the increase of the private plots while pupils and students are greatly interested in the freedom of trips abroad.

Of the difficulties emerged, most worrying are employees' absenteeism (two thirds of the subjects blame it). Most of the subjects indicate as negative phenomena the keeping or promotion in responsible offices of former supporters of the dictatorship, the inordinate recourse to demonstrators and the silence kept about the Securitate.

Democratic Unity Nominates Stancescu to Presidency

AU1104121490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0937 GMT 11 Apr 90

["Election Campaign—The Sixth Candidate to Presidency"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 1/4/1990—During a press conference held in Bucharest, Mr. Nicu Stancescu, chairman of the Democratic Unity Party announced he intended to candidate [as received] for Romania's presidency in the 20 May elections.

Mr. Nicu Stancescu is the sixth Romanian political leader who officially announced his candidature to presidency. Other candidates to that office nominated during the meetings held by political parties and organizations are as follows: Radu Campeanu, chairman of the National Liberal Party (nominated by the Social Democratic Party); I.I. Bratianu, chairman of the Liberal Union; Ion Ratiu, president of the International Union of Free Romanians (nominated by the National Christian Democratic Peasant Party); Ion Iliescu, PNUC president, chairman of the Leading Collegium of the National Salvation Front; Gheorghe Popilean, chairman of the Christian Republican Party.

Ethnic Representatives Give Interview on Unrest

AU1104124790 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian 5 Apr 90 pp 2, 3

[Report on interview with Janos Makkai, chief editor of a local Hungarian-language daily in Tirgu Mures, and Gheorghe Rosca, member of the leadership of the Mures county organization of Vatra Romaneasca, by Ferenc Kepecs; place and date not given: "Among Hungarians in Central Europe—What Does the Vatra Say?]

[Text] At the end of March and the beginning of April, Marosvasarhely [Tirgu Mures] appears a peaceful town, especially if we do not regard the military cordons and tanks guarding the major points in town. Is the tension diminishing between the Hungarian and Romanian population in this town? I asked Janos Makkai, chief editor of the local daily "NEPUJSAG" [PEOPLE'S NEWS], about this.

[Kepecs] Hungarian students in town complain that the atmosphere in the college has become difficult for them to bear and that they are being harassed for participating in the strikes and in the national minority demonstrations.

[Makkai] This is true not only of the university, but also of the enterprises and institutions in town. Naturally, things are not so one-sided. Hungarians and Romanians complain about each other mutually, and there are constant skirmishes between various national minorities under the already calm surface in town.

[Kepecs] In addition to the "official" negotiations, there is also a dialogue between them.

[Makkai] Yes, there is. More sober-minded Hungarians and Romanians are already talking to each other even if they still suspect each other. You know, it was no accident that the Romanian extremists had to bring peasants into town, because they failed to really mobilize the local Romanians against us. However, the situation prevailing in the country is that, if the extremists make a "voting mass" out of all those whom they can influence, they will even be able to win the elections, but naturally, only if they maintain or increase the national minority tensions.

[Kepecs] Who is behind these extremists?

[Makkai] One can only guess. Probably the former leaders of the old regime who want to preserve or restore their influence.

[Kepecs] Let us not beat about the bush! For most of the Hungarians here, the word "extremists" means the Vatra Romaneasca. Does this mean the same thing to you too?

[Makkai] Look, all I can say to this is that the participants in the disturbances referred to and cheered the Vatra.

[Kepecs] Let us then ask a Vatra official! My second interviewee is Gheorghe Rosca of the Vatra Romaneasca, whom I talked to in his home.

Mr. Rosca, what kind of organization is the Vatra Romaneasca? How did it emerge?

[Rosca] We are an apolitical cultural association. We formed this organization when, demanding their old educational institutions back, the Hungarians simply excluded the Romanian students from their schools in the middle of the school year. Parents of Romanian students in Tirgu Mures founded this organization.

[Kepecs] In other words, the Vatra is both a cultural organization and an organization that protects interests.

[Rosca] Yes, but there is no contradiction between the two functions.

[Kepecs] You are accused of being nationalist and chauvinists....

[Rosca] Yes, and also of being fascists. But all these are lies. Let me show the text: The Vatra statute clearly excludes any nationalism and hatred of foreigners. Here it is, you can read it if you know Romanian. I do not know why they accuse us of being fascists. Perhaps people confuse us with the remnants of the Iron Guard.... Besides, are you aware of the fact that our organizations outside Mures County also have Hungarian and German members?

[Kepecs] I heard that you intend to become a party and run in the elections.

[Rosca] Not at all. We take our apolitical status so seriously that only our members could be party members, not our leaders. Besides, contrary to the rumors, not a single member of our Mures County leadership was a member of the Communist Party before. As for the elections, we will not run in the elections, nor will we tell our members what party to vote for.

[Kepecs] In your view, what caused the disturbances in Tirgu Mures?

[Rosca] The fact that the Hungarians came up with their demands too quickly and authoritatively, and the fact that so many people came from Hungary to celebrate their national day on 15 March, and the fact that the local Hungarians celebrated this day so intensively. Hungarian flags were flying everywhere, and, naturally, this confused the Romanians. Please understand that we are in Transylvania....

[Kepecs] All right, but how can disturbances turn into a pogrom? Somebody had to organize this, had to gather the people and transport the peasants into town....

[Rosca] I know what you think, but the Vatra did not organize a single demonstration and did not bring any peasants to Tirgu Mures. Our members were there at the siege of the headquarters of the Democratic Federation of Hungarians in Romania but only in order to calm the people down. Besides, we were only organizing cultural events in those days.

[Kepecs] Then, how did the confrontation break out?

[Rosca] In a spontaneous way, the same way as the Hungarian and Romanian peasants came to Tirgu Mures spontaneously. We do not accuse the Hungarian Federation of organizing the confrontations, and nobody should accuse us of this either!

[Kepecs] You said before that the Vatra is an apolitical association. Then how can you explain the fact that you are nevertheless participating in the negotiations on national minority issues? Does this not mean that you were one of the sides during the events?

[Rosca] Not at all. This only means that we want peace and we are also ready to do something for it. Besides, we have already proposed such negotiations to the Federation but they rejected it at the time, by claiming that we are a fascist organization. I am convinced that, had the Federation decided differently at the time, we would have been able to avoid the bloodshed.

[Kepecs] What is you opinion about the demands of the Hungarians?

[Rosca] We agree that everyone should be able to learn in his mother tongue in the elementary and secondary schools. We also agree that Hungarian should be the language used in universities and colleges training Hungarian priests, teachers, or actors, for example. However, in institutions training professionals who later will have to work in Romanian society—like doctors or engineers—the language used must be Romanian.

[Kepecs] I heard many complaints that the number of Hungarian students admitted into universities decreased drastically over the years. What is your opinion about the demand to introduce a quota system and thus increase the number of Hungarian students eligible for higher education?

[Rosca] I am a university teacher myself and I know the weak knowledge the young people have when coming to the university, both Hungarian and Romanian students. As for the quota system, this would make it possible for some students to make it into the university solely because they are Hungarians. We regard this as antidemocratic and reject it.

Tokes Interviewed on Ethnic Unrest

AU1104220490 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 6 Apr 90 p 2

[Report by "zr"-signed Bratislava PRAVDA reporter on interview with Laszlo Tokes, bishop of the Hungarian Reformed Church in Timisoara, in Bratislava on 5 April: "Laszlo Tokes Warns"]

[Text] A two-day symposium, entitled "Ethics and Politics," which is organized by the Public Against Violence movement, ends in Bratislava today. One of the foreign guests attending the first day of the symposium was Laszlo Tokes, Romanian Bishop of the Hungarian Reformed Church in Timisoara.

["zr"] Last December your stand significantly contributed to the fall of the Ceausescu dictatorship. How can, in your opinion, the nationality conflict in Romania be solved?

[Tokes] The spiritual atmosphere that has taken shape around my church in Timisoara is one characteristic of the Romanian revolution, i.e. it is an atmosphere of cohesion between nations and nationalities. This predetermined my preaching of reconciliation, which I will continue to do. Many people dismiss this stand and claim, on the basis of their experience of the last few decades and the more distant history, that such an attitude is naive because, supposedly, as long as there exist Romanians and Hungarians on earth there will never be reconciliation between them. This is a very extreme view.

I, on the other hand, proceed from reality and from the fact that a solution is impossible without reconciliation. To achieve reconciliation and to deal with ethnic relations in a democratic way is a vital task for us. I am convinced that not only in Romania but in the entire Danube region nothing can be achieved without this—provided, of course, that we do not contemplate radical concepts such as that of expelling Turks from Bulgaria.

Unfortunately, the Romanian nationalistic organization Vatra Romaneasca wants to arouse an atmosphere of uncertainty which would force the Hungarians to leave Transylvania. They recommend that we pack our belongings. However, such an attitude threatens peace not only in Central and East Europe, but also on the whole continent. This would set off an emigration avalanche with incalculable consequences. This is why I see the need for reconciliation as the only sensible path, not just from the viewpoint of my faith.

Stanculescu on Army's Role in Tirgu Mures Events

LD0804041790 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 2045 GMT 6 Apr 90

[Report on interview with National Defense Minister Stanculescu by Andras Sugar; place and date not given]

[Text] The Romanian Government must still clarify what happened in Tirgu Mures. For this it is important to know also what role was played, or rather, what role was not fulfilled, there by the Army. That is why Andras Sugar called on National Defense Minister Victor Stanculescu, from whom we received interesting information, not only in connection with Tirgu Mures.

[Begin recording] [Sugar] Mr. Minister, the Hungarian people saw with great satisfaction how wonderfully the two Armies cooperated from the first days of the revolution. All the greater was our astonishment when we saw that in the bloody days of Tirgu Mures the Army did not intervene for hours to save Romanian citizens from death, from being beaten to death. What was the reason for this?

[Stanculescu, in Romanian, with superimosed Hungarian translation] First of all, thank you for this meeting, and I am happy to turn to my Hungarian friends, the Hungarian people. I would like to clarify something, and you must decide whether I was right or not. In the intial phase of the Tirgu Mures events, when they demanded that the Army intervene, then, at least there on the square—that is the information I was given—there were some 12-15,000 Hungarian-speaking people and some 1,000 Romanians. I personally thought: Why should I lead out the Army? For then I would give the impression as if the Army wanted to disturb the peaceful assembly of the Magyar nationality population. I personally did not believe a clash would occur there.

So, that is how I thought. If the Army marches out now, where there are 15,000 Romanian citizens of Magyar nationality, and altogether 1,000 Romanians, they will say: Aha! So the Army wants to prevent the Magyar population's peaceful demonstration! So, what I want to say is that I am of the view that the information that was sent to me here in the ministry was not creditworthy. The police, who we assumed were active, behaved in a fairly restrained way. This is a shortocming for which again we, the government, are responsible. For all this delay, regrettably, those victims had to pay. I personally feel profound sympathy.

[Sugar] According to Andras Suto, Lieutenant Colonel Judea was the bad seed. As a matter of fact it was with him that Andras Suto discussed their being able to leave the headquarters in peace. Then they got trucks where the canvas was torn and onto which the pogrom knights could climb, and they nearly beat the great writer to death, virtually before the eyes of the Army, of Lt-Col. Judea.

[Stanculescu] In my opinion, the rescue was not adequately prepared. I would say the responsible position which Lt-Col. Judea held in the county leadership prevented him from understanding how great a responsibility weighed upon him. I am very sorry, and I have already said this, that there are still persons in the employ of the National Defense Ministry who, if I may so put it, fulfil a certain political role. Because of this they are treated like people who have been posted temporarily somewhere else from the ministry. These people are for the most part not sufficiently qualified to understand and know how a politician must treat the extremely sensitive issues that arise in certain regions. For this very reason, I myself did not agree with the way Lt-Col. Judea acted; all the more so because he lost control over something which should be under full control. Had he shown more caution, he could have saved the situation. As you no doubt also know, we were in contact with Budapest. We took the writer Andras Suto, whom I know and for whom I feel a special respect, to Budapest.

[Sugar] We have great trust in your perfect military honor and honesty. At the same time in Tirgu Mures, we saw an embittered slogan which proclaims the Army belongs to the entire people, in other words, that it is the servant of every Romanian citizen, not only of those of Romanian nationality.

[Stanculescu] That is so, precisely so. That is how we see it, and that is how it should be; there can be no dispute about this.

[Sugar] At the same time the military units in the town allowed in along the roads from the provinces the buses and trucks of Romanian people, often drunk, armed with stakes and pitchforks, and they did not let the cars of the Magyar-speaking population from the provinces into tirgu Mures.

[Stanculescu] On the basis of the data at my disposal, I have already said what I think about this. After the examinations are concluded I do not want to be the one to draw the conclusions, because those will be the conclusions of the commission, the government commission. So, all those who came along the arterial main roads, we were able to impede them. All those, however, who circumvented these points which were under the army's supervision, we did not stop. They slipped from under our control. It was not a question of some kind of selection, where we let in one and not the other. We did not permit that sort of thing. This kind of discrimination could not have happened. [end recording]

Minzatu Chairs Commission Session in Tirgu Mures

AU1104193890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1850 GMT 11 Apr 90

["Transylvania: The Commission Again in Tirgu Mures"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 11/4/1990—The commission designated by the Executive Bureau of the Provisional National Unity Council [PNUC] to look into the causes of mounting insecurity and mistrust among the residents of Mures County and Tirgu Mures Municipality, which degenerated into highly dangerous acts of violence that ended in dead and wounded in late March, is again in Tirgu Mures.

Under its auspices, the representatives of "Vatra Romaneasca" Union and of the Magyar Democratic Union of Romania, the Mures County branches, met Wednesday to make known the results of the two commissions in charge of investigating the causes of the tragic events on 19 and 20 March with a views to eliminating them.

The commission's works were resumed Wednesday afternoon under the chairmanship of PNUC Vice-President Ion Minzatu.

Joint Commission Reports T. Mures 'Calm' 12 Apr

AU1204101290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0928 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 12/4/1990—After four meetings in Tirgu Mures, the Joint Commission made up of representatives of the "Vatra Romaneasca" Union and of the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania has concluded proceedings. A final release mentions as follows:

An atmosphere of calm, quiet and order, so necessary for the normal unfolding of the socioeconomic activities and of the daily life has gradually set in Tirgu Mures and in the county as early as the setting up of the commission.

A joint group of liaison with access to state power at all levels was set up to maintain and improve that atmosphere. The group consists of representatives of the "Vatra Romaneasca" Union and the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania, and representatives of the other political formations in the county.

That joint group has the mission to avert the emergence of phenomena that could generate tension and to take prompt action in case of need.

The PNUC [Provisional National Unity Council] Commission, headed by vice-president Ion Minzatu, will present to the Provisional National Unity Council a complete report on all aspects connected with the events in Tirgu Mures by April 27, 1990 at the latest.

The investigation commission, made up of representatives of the procurator's office and the police, continues its proceedings for the discovery and punishment of the culprits.

On the eve of the Easter it has been noted with satisfaction that there is a sincere wish for peaceful and harmonious coexistence of all inhabitants of that land.

Daily Criticizes Ratiu Document on Transylvania

AU1104201990 Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian 8 Apr 90 p 1

[Editorial: "A Subtle Falsity or a False Subtlety?"]

[Text] Published and commented on by the press in Bucharest and throughout the country, a document of the World Union of Free Romanians proves that there was an understanding between Mr. Ion Ratiu, president of this union, and Mr. Tibor Hodicksa, counselor in the Ministry of Interior of Hungary, on alienating a part of Romania and integrating it into the United Europe. Obviously, that geographical part was Transylvania and the understanding in question allegedly was concluded on 11 November 1989 in Frankfurt. Thus, this was a proper sale with the necessary clauses, but not as those of the former Romanian landlords to the Porte [of the Ottoman Empire], but in a form appropriate to modern times.

This document arrived at our editorial office well before it was publicized, and we do not know whether we should congratulate ourselves or not for not publishing it in our paper; its importance, if it is genuine, goes beyond the magnitude of an irresponsible action, thus making it one of the most disgraceful documents in the history of this century. No matter who was leading the country on 11 November 1989, Mr. Ratiu had no right—neither moral, nor political, nor the right of an heir to a Romanian province—to place his finger on the map of our homeland and sign such a contract. This would be a particularly serious matter for his prestige as a newly nominated candidate to Romania's presidency on behalf of the National Peasants Party—Christian Democratic. How can one be the president of a country that does not exist or part of which you have sold?

We refrained from publishing this document because we thought that its seriousness made the authenticity questionable. Mr. Ratiu may sign anything he wants, but not a document on selling Transylvania to a state that does not exist. For, where is this United Europe and how does it operate?

We do not believe in the genuineness of this document, but instead of dispersing our doubts, Mr. Ratiu's televised statement increased them: We had our doubts about the genuineness of the document, now we doubt that it is false. First, because Mr. Ratiu did not promptly and immediately come up with a firm denial. Then, because in his explanations he did not deny the contents of the document, but only the falsity of its formulation, that is the formal aspect or, in other words, the technical way it was formulated, which, naturally, would also refute its content. Thus: This document does not follow the paginating "ritual" characteristic of the World Union of Free Romanians, it is not typed on a word processor, and does not observe the diacritical signs of the Romanian spelling and therefore it is a fake. And yet: Who guarantees that Mr. Ratiu did not deliberately use another paginating technique in this document in order to be able to deny it if need be? Moreover, who guarantees that the possible falsifier was not familiar with these "rituals" since no great subtleties were in question or that he renounced a genuine ... falsity? More precisely: How can he prove that someone else and not he himself is the author of this falsity.

This is the first question to which—in all respect and in order to disperse any doubts—we expect an answer from him. Another question, a fundamental one because it would eliminate everything, would be whether or not he met Mr. Tibor Hodicksa on 11 November 1989 in Frankfurt, for what purpose, and what they talked about.

This question has to be answered not only by Mr. Ion Ratiu but also by Mr. Tibor Hodicksa, believed to be a counselor in the Interior Ministry of Hungary. For this purpose, we ask the ambassador of that country in Bucharest to make the necessary inquiries in Budapest and let us know the result. All the more so, because Mr. Ratiu apparently signed as a private person, while Mr. Tibor Hodicksa as the representative of a state.

Ion Ratiu Visits Timisoara, Addresses Rally

AU1104201490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1930 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest Rompres 11/4/1990—Mr Ion Ratiu, nominated by the Christian and Democratic National Peasants' Party [CD-NPP] for the country's presidency, was guest to the martyr town of Timisoara on 10 and 11 April. These two days he took part in several actions within the election campaign. Tuesday Mr. Ratiu laid a floral wreath at the roadside cross in Opera Square in homage to the martyrs of the December 1989 revolution. The same day he met scientists, teaching staff and students of the university and the Agronomic Institute in the city, with experts and workers in tourism, and with leaders of Timisoara society.

Wednesday afternoon Mr. Ion Ratiu took part in a meeting attended by 7-to-10,000 people, according to its organizers. Mr. Ion Ratiu delivered a speech emphasizing, among other things, his links with Timisoara. The Romanian revolution has not vanquished yet, stated Mr. Ratiu. It must be continued. We want a rich country with a European culture. The people should become co-owners of the units where they work. We should eliminate the pollution of today's industry, outdated from all points of view. Social justice should prevail, I have been highly honoured to come to the country and serve you. And if you give me such a mandate, such a chance, we shall proclaim 17 December Romania's national day.

The participants were carrying panels reading "by voting Ion Ratiu, you vote democracy," "by voting the CD-NPP, you vote the triumph of the revolution," "down with Iliescu, down with the activists, down with the Securitate officers."

Timisoara 'Genocide' Trial To Resume 12 Apr

AU1104190190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1713 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 11/4/1990—The Supreme Court of Justice, the military section, resumes on 12 April the trial of the 21 persons accused of complicity to genocide, abetment of genocide and other crimes committed over 16-22 December 1989. The defendants are held responsible for having shot at peaceful and unarmed people during the demonstrators' repression in Timisoara, and for having continued the fight after the dictator's toppling, which ended in some 100 dead and over 300 wounded as well as in numerous missing. Some of the defendants were also involved in taking away 40 corpses from the morgue of the county hospital in Timisoara and in transporting them to Bucharest to be incinerated at the crematorium "Cenusa."

The trial resumes with the hearing of the witnesses for the prosecution.

The inquiry on other persons involved in the December events also continues in Timisoara. The military prosecutor's bodies, assisted by the Army, the police and citizens, keep investigating all those accused of having bloodily repressed the demonstrators.

Romanian Democratic Front Set Up in Timisoara

AU1104124690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0940 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 11/4/1990—The Romanian Democratic Front [RDF], a political mass organization with democratic character has been founded in Timisoara. The new party is for the "removal of the social, economic and political disaster" Romania was in during the dictatorship, for the establishment of true democracy and freedom in Romania, and for the full assertion of human personality and dignity. The RDF gathers a wide range of social categories, without discrimination, that fought communism and has its own structures at county, municipality, town and commune levels. The RDF is lead by an initiative committee headed by economist Petrisor Morar and has its own weekly REVOLUTIA that comes out in Timisoara.

Vatra Demands Deputy Culture Minister's Dismissal

AU0704184590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1728 GMT 7 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 7/4/1990—In a protest note published by the "TINERETUL LIBER" daily of 7 April, the Bucharest branch of the "Vatra Romaneasca" Union rejects the statement that Deputy Minister of Culture Dan Petrescu made in his official position in an interview with the Hungarian radio. The Romanian dignitary considers the "Vatra Romaneasca" Union with a membership of about four million as "an hysterical, chauvinistic organization which has no political culture" and which was allegedly behind the "atrocities" in Tirgu Mures.

The note says among other things: "It is inadmissible that a Romanian official should use such words to describe a nonpolitical organization which, by its statute and programme, conveys the aspirations of the Romanian nation.

In consideration of the seriousness of the affirmations and of the incriminations made in the said interview, we are of the opinion that maintaining Dan Petrescu at the Ministry of Culture is "a burdensome load" and we specifically and urgently ask the government to dismiss him from office.

In the way we defend the moral uprightness and the dignity of the Romanian people which was disconsidered in the official opinion given by Dan Petrescu.

AFP Reports Vatra Romaneasca 'Manifesto'

AU1104143490 Paris AFP in English 1303 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Vienna, April 11 (AFP)—An ultra-nationalist Romanian organisation, set up since Ceausescu's fall, has called for a bloody crusade to rid Romania of "impure" ethnic minorities including Hungarians and Gypsies, a Hungarian minority defence group charged here Wednesday. The Vienna-based International Committee for Transylvania—the Romanian province where most ethnic Hungarians are concentrated—said a nationalist "holy war" was being urged by the Vatra Romaneasca (Romanian cradle) movement.

The group, based in Tirgu Mures, Transylvania, is said to have helped to trigger the ethnic riots which left up to eight people dead and hundreds injured in the town last month.

The Transylvania Committee said it had obtained through a "reliable source" a copy of a manifesto issued on February 20 by Vatra Romaneasca which said that "unhappily, the holy land of Romania has been soiled by the Asian feet of Huns, by Gypsies and other underlings". "Do not be afraid to rise up and spill their impure blood," it said.

The manifesto, stamped "Vatra Romaneasca, Tirgu Mures National Headquarters" and signed in illegible handwriting, said: "We will start by whipping up the anti-Hungarian, anti-Gypsy and anti-German sentiment deeply entrenched in the Romanian character."

The document said that Transylvania was "the most unclean" part of Romania "because of the Hungarians but unfortunately because of others too". "This is why our organisation believes it is necessary to concentrate our activities in this region first while not losing sight of other areas of the national territory (essentially involving Gypsies, Jews, Tatars etc....."

The manifesto said the "most urgent task" was to put into place the "various forms and methods of intimidation" and "eliminate or neutralise the enemy's most capable leader". "Then we have to impress upon non-Romanians" that there is a threat to "their physical and intellectual integrity".

Vatra Romaneasca, whose stated goal is the restoration "of Romania in its 1918 borders" said it would welcome collaboration with members of the Securitate, the notorious secret police organisation of former leader Nicolae Ceausescu. "The association defends the former Securitate because we need competent people raised in a spirit of unconditional loyalty for a pre-determined purpose," the manifesto said.

Vatra Romaneasca said it could obtain "propaganda material" from both Romanian personalities and from supportive foreigners "in particular French and Canadian organisations".

The group said it wanted to "curb and even subvert trends towards liberalising Romania's relations with the rest of Europe". "We are Romanian, Don't get carried away by 'pro-European' statements," it urged Romanians.

The militant nationalists have emerged within a few short months as a force to be reckoned with in the countdown to legislative elections on May 20.

The present Romanian leadership blamed Vatra Romaneasca for attacking ethnic Hungarians in the Tirgu Mures riots. But a week later, President Ion Iliescu lauded "Vatra Romaneasca and its millions of members" as a model group which had opened what he called a constructive dialogue.

According to some sources, the Iron Guard fascist movement, which surfaced in the 1930s is behind Vatra Romaneasca. Others say it is the Securitate that is pulling the strings. There are also reports which say Vatra is linked to the National Peasants Party, one of the main opposition groups.

Octavian Ghibu, a founder of Vatra said at the end of March that Romania faced "a great risk of civil war". He said Vatra could count on massive support. "They say we are three million. But... we'll soon be 10 or 15 million. Everywhere, in factories, companies, offices, we're organising to take to the streets when we think the time is right," he said. Mr. Ghibu said he and a handful of other "intellectuals" had founded Vatra on January 19 in response to "Hungarian propaganda" against Romania. He said the Transylvania unrest was the result of "an excellent plan of action and subversion hatched in Hungary". He said Hungarians had always been "privileged" in Romania. Even under Ceausescu they were "untouchable". "We Romanians were subjected to discrimination in our own country in favour of Hungarians," he said.

Roman Briefs Journalists on Government Activity

AU1004104590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0859 GMT 10 Apr 90

["Political Life—Government Activity Survey"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 10/4/1990—The government's performance after one hundred days proves that it has tried to serve the interests of the country to the best of its ability, Romania's Prime Minister Petre Roman told Romanian and foreign journalists Monday [9 April] afternoon at a press conference.

Attending were Deputy Prime Ministers Mihai Draganescu, Gelu Voican-Voiculescu, Ion Aurel Stoica, Anton Vatasescu, other cabinet members.

Showing which were the main targets of the government buring that period, the Romanian prime minister pointed out that a major concern was to keep the economy going and to raise the living standard. He said that although the performance of the economy was not what had been anticipated and the results were far from meeting the expectations, the responsibility and autonomy of economic units had grown. This statement is supported by the fact that industrial production for the first quarter is only 82 per cent of that made during the same period last year. However, the trend was steadily upward: production in March was 10 per cent up on February, notwithstanding such problems as organization, a rhythmical raw materials supply, and outdated technology which have remained. A sustained law-making activity has pursued to improve the situation as much as possible, the laws being aimed to encourage and regulate private initiative, foreign capital investment and to help the transition to the market economy. He showed that equally sustained action was taken to improve the general standard of living. Reference was made to the abrogation of past provisions that were an obstacle to the desideratum: in one hundred days of administration, the price of electricity, gas and heating has been cut by nearly 50 per cent, and large sums of hard currency were paid to import food and consumer goods.

Imports payable in dollars have risen 60 per cent and they were chiefly consumer goods and animal food. Home-market deliveries have increased 26 per cent on 1989, with prices remaining at the same level. Under these circumstances, even if the revenues of various social segments have grown largely by reinstating people to certain rights, which put a strain on the budget, we are faced with a growing inflationist pressure, although we managed through our measures to keep prices where they were, the prime minister said.

Another important facet of government activity was to increasingly open Romania to the world, to make it an active country. This openness put the conditions in place for the growth of mutually advantageous relations and for an orientation to true values acknowledged worldwide.

In answer to a question, Prime Minister Roman showed that the government had the assistance of political parties in passing certain decrees-laws in the context of the measures pursuing to reorient the Romanian economy to the sound market mechanism.

Roman Reports Mercedes Benz Ventures in Romania

AU0904100490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0901 GMT 9 Apr 90

["Petre Roman News Conference"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 9/4/1990—We are open to economic and financial cooperation with large groups in the developed countries, associated with the effort for raising the efficiency of Romanian industry and of retechnologizing it, stated Mr. Petre Roman, Romanian prime minister, in a news conference held on Sunday afternoon.

A few ventures are in view with the Mercedes Benz, mentioned the prime minister. First, for bus assembly lines in Romania and after a while the setting up of commercial companies even called "Mercedes" to manufacture also other types of goods. We even are for the establishment in Romania of a commercial firm of the Mercedes Benz concern in the interest of developing, revigorating and joining the Romanian economy in the flow of the developed states and of raising the people's living standard up to the level of those states. It is clear that the Mercedes Benz president did not come to Romania as a tourist but as a businessman, which reflects Romania's present credibility in the relations with such large groups. Their interest in Romania is growing and we consider it welcome and the steps already legislated allow for such forms of cooperation to be open and efficient enough. The prime minister also showed that privatization takes on multiple aspects, as it has no limits set.

Official Discusses Need for Foreign Capital

AU0604201890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1037 GMT 6 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 6/4/1990—Romania's firm transition to the market economy, already in this stage of reconstruction and economic development, is strongly supported by the new decree-law concerning the attraction of foreign capital investment, shows Mr. Aurel Chibutiu, D. Econ, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania, in DIMINEATA.

The new regulations fall within a medium and long-term orientation in the economic strategy of decentralization of the economy and of gradually setting it on market economy mechanisms, says Mr. Chibutiu, being also a clear message as concerns Romania's future orientation in economic management. Taken into consideration is the attraction of foreign currency resources, which together with the country's own resources, should stimulate the economic levers of society in the current development stage. Currency resources allow for the acquisition of the other necessary resources while foreign capital investment does not materialize only in currency amounts, attracted under the form of credits or borrowings, but also in equipment, modern technology and technical and organizational expertise.

The deep crisis the Romanian economic has been in over past decades can be overcome, in Mr. Chibutiu's opinion, only by reintegrating the country's economy in the European and world economy by attracting foreign capital included, the new laws opening broad prospects in this respect. The attraction of foreign investment is a common modality of participating in the international division of labour, and in no way of selling part of Romania's national wealth, as it was not for the European and East Asian countries that made big steps on the road of their "miraculous" economic growth by attracting foreign capital, opines the chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania.

New Law To Affect Foreign Capital Investment

AU0604203990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1103 GMT 6 Apr 90

["The Economy—Who Can Invest in Romania and How?"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 6/4/1990—The new decree-law represents an important step in putting the Romanian legislation in line with the international market practice regarding foreign capital investment. For the first time in 45 years, Mr. Adrian Gheorghiu, manager of the Cooperation and Joined Societies Department of the Foreign Trade Ministry, stated in an interview with daily ADEVARUL, almost all Romanian juristic and natural persons are given the right to participate in the foundation of marketing societies in association with foreign juristic or natural persons. During the dictatorship this right was enjoyed only by economic units with foreign trade and international cooperation attributions; quite a few Romanian enterprises were able to do that, that is why now Romania has only four joined societies with the participation of foreign capital which are to be called for now on trade societies according to the new legislation.

The speaker said that the setting up of trade companies with foreign participation which can be, according to legal provisions, joint-stock companies or societies with limited liability function of the provisions in the partnership deed is subject to approval by the ministry that coordinates the given field of activity based on the previous approval of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the Ministry of Finance; trade companies in the production field shall also have the approval of the Ministry of National Economy. The setting up in Romania of trade companies with foreign capital exclusively is subject to government approval.

Foreign Aid Commission Head Gives Statement

AU0604195990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1525 GMT 6 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 6/4/1990—"Foreign investments, export credits, technical assistance, personnel training and other forms of assistance for economic reform are Romania's domains of collaboration with all the states"—said Eugen Dijmarescu, chairman of the Government Commission for the Coordination of Foreign Economic Aid, in a news conference held on 6 April in Bucharest. He stressed that this body that gathers representatives of all Romania's ministries, central institutions and representatives of the recently formed private sector is acting for the expansion of Romania's international collaboration in economic and financial matters on a long or medium term basis.

On the occasion a report was read on the activity carried out by the Command for Foreign Aid Coordination which stressed the fact that the foreign aid for Romania came from 46 countries on all continents.

Industrial Cooperation With Foreign Companies

AU0904194490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1705 GMT 9 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 9/4/1990—Following the understanding between the Romanian Ministry of Metallurgical Industry and the West German company "Ziemag Schloman," action would be jointly taken for the modernization of cool casting installations of the mills in the ferrous metallurgy plant in Galati. The thin sheet used in manufacturing cars, tractors, refrigerators, a.o. [and others] and produced by modern cool casting technologies will meet both the requirements of the national economy and those of foreign beneficiaries.

Such cooperation contracts are to be finalized with companies in the USA and Finland specialized in metallurgy.

Trade Law Said To Clear Way to Market Economy

AU0904195490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1707 GMT 9 Apr 90

["Guarantees for Foreign Investors"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 9/4/1990—The Decree-Law No. 96 clears the way for an end to state monopoly on foreign trade, for the diversification of ownership and hence for a real transition to the market economy, says Adrian Gheorghiu, director of the Foreign Trade Ministry's Cooperation and Joint Ventures Division.

The new normative act does not differ essentially from those in force in countries with a market economy. One argument that this is so is the provision that says the social capital and accounting can be expressed in hard currency or in leu. Should the national currency be preferred, the hard currency is exchanged for leu at the rate in force in Romania at that time. The lei funds may result from the associates' contributed capital, receipts in hard currency or hard-currency credits exchanged at the Romanian Bank for Foreign Trade or other banks established in Romania at the rate in force at the time of exchange, and from the sales of commodities or services on the home market for lei in cash, or on credit.

The law stimulates trade companies further to invest and extend the scale of their operations. As Adrian Gheorghiu said, the profits in hard and national currency that the foreign side makes can be reinvested in their company or in others owned jointly with Romanians. Profits can also be used to buy Romanian commodities and services. Guarantees are given to foreign investors on their annual profits of which the equivalent of no more than 8 percent of their capital contribution can be transferred abroad in hard currency through the Romanian bank for foreign trade. Trade companies are also entitled to a tax-free profit for the first two years. For the next three years, the Ministry of Finance can grant a 50 percent profit-tax cut. Furthermore, the profit tax is halved for that quota of the profit which is reinvested for at least five years in the company or in any other venture owned jointly with Romanians.

Romanian Cultural Foundation Established

AU1004195290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1748 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 10/4/1990—According to a government decision released in Bucharest today, the Romanian Cultural Foundation was set up as an "autonomous juristic person." It aims at developing Romania's cultural relations with other states and at promoting links with persons of Romanian extraction settled abroad whatever their nationality.

The newly founded body will be responsible for the administration and control of the Romanian state's cultural establishments abroad, and will develop relations with similar foreign institutions in Romania.

In keeping with this decision, the foundation's financing sources will consist in dues and other incomes, donations or aid from the country and abroad as well as in budget allowances.

It is also specified that the foundation can edit publications.

Delegation of U.S. Commission for CSCE Arrives

AU1204083690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0701 GMT 12 Apr 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 12/4/1990—A delegation of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe arrived in Romania's capital. The delegation led by its chairman, Senator Dennis DeConcini (Democrat-Arizona) and co-chairman Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (Democrat-Maryland) includes three other representatives of the U.S. Congress and seven others.

"I would like to say how pleased we are to be here," Senator DeConcini said in an arrival statement. "This is a time of extraordinary change in Eastern Europe.

"We come to Romania with open minds, we come with no preconception save one: the people of Romania deserve freedom no less than any of their neighbours setting out on the path toward democracy.

"We watched the December revolution from afar with admiration for the tremendous courage of the Romanian people and like people who have struggled against oppression elsewhere. Romanians have something to teach all of us about the value of liberty. We have come to listen and to learn. We have also come to discuss some concerns we have about the process of democratization in Romania. We look forward to hearing about the status of preparations for the May elections and learning about the mechanisms in place to ensure that they will be free and fair.

"We will be addressing the recent outbreak of violence and asking about the prospects for restoration of minority rights and institutionalized protection of the human rights of all citizens of this country.

"We have a full agenda for a short visit, but we hope this will be the first of many exchanges between the commission and representatives of the new Romania."

In his turn, co-chairman Steny Hoyer said:

"The Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe last sent a delegation to Romania in August 1987. I led that delegation and was joined by representative Moody as well as two other members of congress.

"We are eager to see the changes that have taken place in this country with our own eyes. Not the least of these changes is the decisive break Romania has made with the isolationist policies of the Ceausescu period policies that locked the country in a lonely cycle of despair.

"We return to Romania at a time of great hope and greater uncertainty. We look forward to candid talks with representatives of the provisional government, political parties and human rights advocacy groups. Our discussions here will help us decide how best we can encourage the growth of democracy in Romania and how our two countries together can advance the goals of the Helsinki process."

At the Otopeni Airport the guests were greeted by Foreign Affairs Ministry officials.

Alan Green Jr., U.S. ambassador in Bucharest, and members of embassy were present.

Markovic Receives DeConcini Delegation

LD1204031290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1850 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, April 11 (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Premier Ante Markovic conferred in Belgrade today with a delegation of the U.S. Congress about the current political and economic reforms in Yugoslavia and the situation in Kosovo.

The Yugoslav premier stressed that, for the further successful implementation of the reforms, it is important that Yugoslavia receive adequate financial support from abroad. Markovic also said that the implementation of the economic and political reforms in Yugoslavia would create conditions also for resolving the problem in Kosovo.

The U.S. Congress delegation, headed by the chairman of the Congressional Commission for the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), Senator Dennis DeConcini, assessed the results of the Yugoslav reforms as impressive and stressed that it was in the mutual interest that the U.S. business and capital participate to a greater extent in the Yugoslav economy.

'Final, 'Official' Presidency Elections Results

AU1204082990 Ljubljana Domestic Service in Slovene 1700 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] The final, official results of the elections for the president of the Presidency of Slovenia and the members of the Presidium were published by the Republican Election Commission today [11 April]. In the second round of elections on 22 April, we will choose between Milan Kucan, who won 44.4 percent of the votes and will appear on the ballot paper under number one, and Joze Pucnik, who won 26.6 percent of the votes in the first round.

The new members of the Presidency of Slovenia are to be Ciril Zlobec, Ivan Oman, Matjaz Kmecl, and Dusan Plut.

The Republican Election Commission also endorsed the results of the elections for the Chamber of Communes of the republican assembly. Only 15 candidates were elected to this chamber in the first round in Gornja Radgona, Grosuplje, Gorenjska, Lenart, Logatec, Metlika, Mozirje, Murska Sobota, Ormoz, Maribor, Pesnica, Postojna, Sevnica, Sentjur near Celje, Trebnje, and in the Italian nationality constituency. Elections for the Chamber of Communes will be repeated in the remaining 56 constituencies on 22 April.

Here are the latest results for the Sociopolitical Chamber: According to the votes counted so far, the LCS [former initials of the League of Communists of Slovenia]—Party of Democratic Reform is the party with the largest amount of votes—17.27 percent. It is followed by ZSMS [former initials of the Slovene Socialist Youth Federation]—Liberal Party with 15.44 percent, the Slovene Christian Democrats with 13.30 percent, the Slovene Peasant Alliance with 12.16 percent, the Slovene Democratic Alliance with 9.92 percent, the Greens of Slovenia with 8.91 percent, and the Socialist Alliance with 5.18 percent of the votes.

Assembly Mandate Extended Until Elections

LD1104185290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1413 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Apr (TANJUG)—The Federal Chamber of the SFRY Assembly today proclaimed the Constitutional Law which extends the mandate of the Assembly in its present composition until multiparty elections, or at the latest until the end of the year.

The Constitutional Law also extends the mandate of officials elected by the SFRY Assembly, the Federal Executive Council and the governor of the National Bank of Yugoslavia.

Army Denies Chemical Arms Made for Iraq

LD1104225190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1900 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, April 11 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Army neither possesses nor produces chemical weapons, Army spokesman Colonel Vuk Obradovic said at a regular press conference here on Wednesday.

Obradovic categorically rejected the possibility of Yugoslavia's involvement in the production of chemical weapons.

The cooperation of the Armed Forces of Yugoslavia and Iraq "by no means serves the purpose of producing chemical weapons, which the Iraqi Armed Forces have," Obradovic said.

SAWPY Committee Discusses Attacks on Tito

LD1104082290 Belgrde TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1526 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 10 Apr (TANJUG)—The Socialist Alliance of Working People of Yugoslavia [SAWPY] federal conference's coordination committee for nurturing revolutionary traditions and perpetuating the name and personality of Josip Broz Tito, at today's session set in motion the initiative that, within the Socialist Alliance of Working People, a broad discussion be carried out among historians, scholars, public workers, and publicists about Tito's life and work, assessing its importance, contributions and weaknesses.

The reason for this session, as well as the main item on the agenda, were "attacks on Josip Broz Tito," as put by Committee Chairman Marin Cetinic. He linked these attacks with the denial of fundamental values to the National Liberation Struggle and the new Yugoslav society. Cetinic said in the introductory remarks that this even involves contests with regard to who is going to attack Tito more, which Cetinic interpreted in terms of the current political structure, the rise of new parties, and the power struggle.

Issues are taken out of their historical context and circumstances and are measured by present-day criteria, and from whereby wrong conclusions are drawn. Cetinic stressed, and called for a reply to attacks on Tito. Exposing their ideological and political grounds does not mean that the need for objective historical analysis and verification of Tito's role is pushed aside. [passage omitted]

The committee rejected the initiative of Radivoje Scekis, delegate in the SFRY Assembly's Federal Chamber, that 1 December 1918 is proclaimed a public holiday, since negative views were received from the Republican Conferences of Bosnia-Hercegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, and Macdonian SAYPs. On that occasion, historian Pero Damjanovic suggested the proclamation of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes—that is that 1 December is not marked as public holiday, but that each republic celebrates at its own discretion a day which it links with a decision to join Yugoslavia.

At this session, the committee members paid respect to long-standing Committee Secretary Dr Ljubisa Stoikic, who is going into retirement.

Social-Democratic Alliance Forms

LD0804015790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1848 GMT 7 Apr 90

[Text] Zagreb, Apr 7 (TANJUG)—At its founding assembly here today, the Social-Democratic Alliance of Yugoslavia (SDAY) was set up rallying the social-democratic organizations from Yugoslavia's republics of Bosnia-Hercegovina, Montenegro, Croatia and Serbia.

It was made known that the alliance would also be entered by the organizations of the same name from other republics and provinces, while organizations from Macedonia and Kosovo already had the observer status.

The substantial values for which the alliance strives are: freedom, equality, justice and solidarity. The said basic rights and freedoms over individual and collective rights in which both of them in fact serve the individual citizen above all.

The SDAY would rely upon the experience of Europe's social democracy and in this way, as was said today, it would contribute to the settlement of political crisis in Yugoslav society.

The SDAY, as was stressed in the adopted program, is not based upon any exclusive outlook on the world and hence it calls the citizens of Yugoslavia, who have different views, to join in a political struggle for the implementation of this program. It also appeals to all democratic political forces of Yugoslavia to cooperate and to enter tolerant political dialogues.

The founding assembly of the SDAY was attended also by representatives of many other parties from Croatia and other republics and those of the Socialist Party of France, the Social-Democratic Party of Germany and of the Socialist International.

Pristina Alternative Meeting Continues

AU1004083990 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 2 Apr 90 p 5

[Kelmend Hapciu and Blerim Reka report: "Dialogue Must Nevertheless Continue"]

[Excerpts] An incident at the beginning, but a successful discussion and conclusion—this was the first impression a journalist would gather from the recent gathering of Yugoslav alternative movements to discuss Kosovo. The seventh round of roundtable talks on coordinating democratic initiatives, "Mostar Two," ended in Pristina the evening before last with the approval of the statement of the Executive Council of the Association for a Yugoslav Democratic Initiative [AYDI], while an open discussion for citizens was held later in the evening. [passage omitted]

Emil Atanasov of the League for Democracy in Skopje said that no law-governed state is operating in Kosovo. The state in Serbia and sections of not only the Serbian but the Macedonian people are frightened of the democratization of Kosovo, for three supposed reasons. According to them, these "reasons" are the formation of national parties, the creation of "Greater Albania," and an even greater peril posed to Serbs and Montenegrins. He saw a solution and a precondition for democratization in Kosovo in the demystification of these three "dangers." The demystification of the first issue would be achieved by the creation of supranational parties in Kosovo; the second issue has in a way already lost its mystique, because the Albanians are in fact not advocating the detachment of Kosovo and the creation of Greater Albania, while, as regards any greater danger democracy in Kosovo would pose to the Serbs and Montenegrins, this would not occur in a democratic state. He proposed the possible formation of a Yugoslav commission to watch over their position.

No Special Regime Can Be Imposed on Kosovo

Blerim Shala of the Youth Parliament thought that there had been monologue instead of dialogue during the last two days. The situation is now much worse than when the gathering in Mostar was held. Communist unanimity has now turned into total irrationality with the imposition of a special regime on Kosovo, and the creation of special zone in Yugoslavia. It is now clear who wishes peace and who is against it, and the theory that we pose a threat does not hold water, because, in fact, we have no means of force to do so. He concluded by saying that for some time there has also been a lack of readiness at federal level to do anything to solve the Kosovo problem.

Fehim Rexhepi of the Kosovo Social Democratic Party said that there are no perfect answers in politics, but we also cannot agree with the separatist solution for Kosovo. The solution can only lie in free elections, freedom of the press, and guarantees for human rights and freedoms and for the autonomy of Kosovo. This has been impeded by the most recent decisions of the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia, which in fact mean police annexation and the introduction of a governorship over Kosovo.

Dr. Hivzi Islami, president of the Kosovo Peasant Party, said that economic laws recognize no logic besides that of the market. It is a surprising fact that the same rules do not hold good for Kosovo as for the rest of the country. How can one otherwise explain the fact that dismissed university professors in Belgrade are being reinstated in their jobs, while here the president of the Kosovo Assembly issues a memorandum calling for the dismissal of all teachers who have fallen afoul of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia. There is talk about the democratization of Kosovo at the very time when the system of repression, which has collapsed throughout East Europe, is persistently violating the rights of an entire two-million-strong ethnic community. This has happened on every occasion since the liberation when the members of this community have tried to express their views in public. It unfortunately happened once again last year when, at a time when graves were being dug in Kosovo, there were festivities in another part of the country to celebrate recovered statehood, in which our reformist premier also took part. He added that segregation, which is limited even in the now vanishing apartheid system in South Africa, is being introduced in Kosovo, and that the Yugoslav Program for Kosovo is designed to this end. The tanks and militia in Kosovo are felt to be a third occupation, like the Serbian occupations of 1912 and 1918. This speaker also offered to an independent commission a range of data relating to Kosovo, citing statistics about the 1,243 official immigrants from Albania, the 700 teachers dismissed from work, the 1,100 Albanian high school graduates who were not allowed to proceed to college, the 11,000 elementary school graduates who were not allowed to proceed to secondary education, and so forth. [passage omitted]

Prof. Dr. Dejan Janca, from the Yugoslav Forum for Human Rights, offered a specific proposal. Yugoslavia has signed the Covenant on Human Rights, but not the optional protocol of 1971, which permits all citizens of all states to appeal to the International Commission on Human Rights. He therefore called for public pressure to be exerted on our state to sign this international legal document also, because Hungary and Bulgaria are now doing so, and it is expected that the Soviet Union will also do so. From my experience of participating in the work of this International Commission, I am convinced that this solution has been effective in eliminating violations of human rights and freedoms in the case of Uruguay. [passage omitted]

Declaration of the AYDI Executive Council on the Roundtable

The AYDI Executive Council observed that the start of the seventh roundtable in Pristina represented a defeat, and the AYDI, as organizer, assumes responsibility for this itself, but also considers that the nonrepresentation of official views and of the other side of the opposition had a negative influence on the general atmosphere. The very failure of the start of the talks, when preliminary conditions were laid down, illustrates the need for serious discussion among citizens of the different nationalities living in Kosovo. The participants from the Council for the Truth About Kosovo and the Radical People's Party left the table before it was possible to reply to the questions on which they insisted. The act of leaving the table implies agreement with the existing situation, and such a step points toward violence instead of discussion as a means to solve the situation in Kosovo, and thus toward undemocratic policies in Yugoslavia, Serbia, and Kosovo. Moreover, those who left the meeting erroneously interpreted the Mostar Resolution, which includes the integrity of Yugoslavia and Serbia. It is therefore a matter of an attempt to impose on public opinion the idea that only "acceptable" people can be selected to take part in discussion. The AYDI, knowing that the citizens of Yugoslavia who live in Kosovo, i.e. Albanians, Serbs, and Montenegrins, must necessarily talk, stands by its view that the discussions should continue.

The declaration ends by stating that a system of free elections in Yugoslavia, without any preconditions of any kind, must also be introduced in Kosovo, and that the special status of Kosovo in relation to the democratic processes taking place elsewhere in the country must be removed. Legitimate representatives for discussions on Kosovo's future can only come from free elections within Kosovo too. It is a worrying fact that many invited federal, republican, and provincial institutions did not reply to the invitation to take part in these discussions.

Declaration of Pristina AYDI

We have again witnessed abrogations of the law in recent days. Within the now familiar explosive situation in Kosovo, we have this month seen for the first time attempted lynchings in Podujevo and Vucitrn. What is called "lynch law" in fact means the suspension of the law, the assumption of the responsibility of law enforcement by the masses of the citizenry, and the use of violence on their part. Such phenomena threaten and endanger citizens' guaranteed rights. Because violence was used in Podujevo and Vucitrn against Serbian and Montenegrin citizens, attempted lynchings are also a serious factor in increasing the sense of general insecurity felt by members of these nationalities.

The recent decision to effectively suspend the Kosovo police and to centralize the work of this body within the Republican Secretariat of Internal Affairs shows that this phenomenon cannot be viewed outside the context of the general anarchy in Kosovo. After the recent array of special laws, this step represents the removal of what little organization has remained in Kosovo society, and indirectly implies the elimination of the Kosovo Assembly as the highest state body in the province.

Serb Official on Relations With Kosovo Albanians

LD1004220790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1605 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 10 April (TANJUG)—A great deal of energy has been invested in Serbia dealing with global questions of this republic and Yugoslavia, in the questions which had been imposed on Serbia by history and the present time. Kosovo remains the main problem, but our attention so far has been concentrated on those who were under the biggest threat—the Serbs and the Montenegrins in that province. However, the conditions are getting ripe for more to be done to gain the confidence of the Albanians, the program of the Socialist Republic of Serbia for peace and democracy in Kosovo, a program for everyone living there, should be the living link with that people.

This was stressed by Dr Dobrosay Bjeletic, a member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists [LC] of Serbia, taking part in the discussion among the communists working for the TANJUG editorial board for the SR of Serbia on the document of the LC of Serbia as a party for democratic socialism.

Speaking of the Albanian political alternative, Bjeletic said that it cannot be ignored, but the scope for a dialogue will be there when the wave of open terrorism has abated. There is no price, said Bjeletic, which we are not ready to pay as far as the development of Kosovo and its staying in the SR of Serbia and Yugoslavia. However, our overriding interest is to bring the state in Kosovo to perfection. [passage omitted]

Poisoning 'Farce' Continues in Urosevac

LD1004212390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1657 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Excerpt] Urosevac, 10 Apr (TANJUG)—Albanian schoolchildren in Urosevac are perpetuating the farce with the alleged poisoning. In Josip Broz Tito secondary school center today six schoolchildren of the Albanian nationality suddenly got the symptoms of poisoning. They started to writhe with pain in school corridors indicating that the air was poisoned. As before, private cars happened to be in the immediate vicinity, and the schoolchildren were taken to the local clinic. Afterward, they returned to the school. During the same period of time, schoolchildren of the Serbian and Montenegrin nationalities continued to attend classes as normal. [passage omitted]

New Cases Reported

AU1104191890 Pristina Domestic Service in Albanian 1700 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] [Announcer] Our correspondent in Podujevo, Ismail Bytyci, reports:

[Bytyci] The political and security situation in the commune of Podujevo has become even more dramatic following today's report on the illness of 23 pupils. At 1000 GMT today, as 23 pupils from the [name indistinct] school presented themselves at the local hospital, asking for treatment, all streets leading to this medical institution were checked by units of the militia. The patients were reported to be in a poor state and were given immediate medical help. Some of the patients were sent to the Pristina University Medical Faculty Clinic.

A large number of Podujevo citizens had gathered in the hospital's courtyard, stating their readiness to transport the patients with their own vehicles, but due to the intervention of the internal affairs organs, they had to leave.

Meanwhile, in view of the rather grave situation, citizens' meetings are being held to protest the existing situation and to demand that a democratic dialogue be held as soon as possible. There have also been demands that the president of the Federative Executive Council, Ante Markovic, should come to Kosovo and acquaint himself with the situation and with the Kosovo reality. Citizens are also reacting to the suspension of some members of the internal affairs organs in Kosovo and are demanding the abrogation of the Yugoslav-Turkish convention of 1935 concerning the emigration of Albanians from Yugoslavia to Turkey.

Kosovo Delegates Approve Law on Federal Assembly

LD1104184790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1529 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Pristina, 11 Apr (TANJUG)—The delegates of the Kosovo Assembly, having agreed on their agenda, today endorsed the draft constitutional law on the extension of the mandate of the delegates in the Federal Chamber of the SFRY Assembly.

The Kosovo Assembly delegates adopted the changes and amendments of the constitutional law for implementing amendments 18 to 44 of the Kosovo Constitution.

Postpones Constitution Debate

LD1104133990 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1239 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Pristina, 11 Apr (TANJUG)—After an almost four-hour long discussion about the agenda of the session, delegates of the Kosovo Assembly decided by a majority of votes to postpone for some other session a discussion regarding whether or not to give consent to the SFRY Presidency's proposal to change the Yugoslav Constitution. While 98 delegates, exclusively of the Albanian nationality, voted in favor of this item to be taken out from the agenda, 64 delegates of other nationalities voted in favor of consenting to the SFRY Presidency's proposal. Three delegates abstained from voting.

Prior to this outcome, delegates of the Albanian nationality talked about many Kosovo events and topics from their angle.

Members Resign

LD1104132290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1215 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Pristina, April 11 (TANJUG)—A number of delegates of the Assembly of the Yugoslav Autonomous Province of Kosovo called to account provincial parliament President Djordje Bozovic and members of the provincial government at today's parliament session.

They were called to account for sending a circular letter from an informal meeting, against the parliament's stands, demanding the replacement from university and schools of all those who opposed the policy of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and acted from the positions of Albanian nationalism and separatism.

The delegates were also handed the resignations of provincial Prime Minister Jusuf Zejnulahu and government members Lek Berisa, Seladin Skeja, Muhamed Bicaja and Lek Vuksani.

The Yugoslav daily BORBA today says that provincial Interior Minister Jusuf Karakusi also handed his resignation.

In his letter of resignation, brought by BORBA today, Zejnulahu accuses the political leadership of Kosovo, by its constant unfounded accusations against the authorities, of preventing the provincial government from settling the difficult situation in the province, shaken by riots of ethnic Albanian separatists and chauvinists since 1981.

The provincial government headed by Zejnulahu came to power only four months ago, and the first indications about a rift between the provincial party leadership and government appeared recently. Kosovo Government member Tomislav Sekulic warned about this in yesterday's issue of BORBA, at the same time announcing the resignation of the prime minsiter and seven of the 17 Kosovo government members.

Alliance of Socialists Hold Election Convention

LD0804023790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1640 GMT 7 Apr 90

[Text] Zagreb, April 7 (TANJUG)—The Alliance of Socialists is a party for the small people; our candidates are not leaders but people who share the everyday problems of their fellow citizens, the Socialist Alliance-The Alliance of Socialists of Croatia president, Zeljko Mazar, said opening the party convention here today.

The Alliance of Socialists is for democratic socialism, market economy, freedom of the individual and a multiparty parliamentary democracy, it was said.

Mazar said the party is for a Yugoslavia where all nations and national minorities have equal rights, for equality and sovereignty of the republics. He warned that if its national freedoms and interests are jeopardized, Croatia will use the right to self-determination to the point of secession. We see Croatia as part of Yugoslavia in a federation, and the Alliance of Socialists will not abandon its democratic course, it was said at the party's convention.

Croatian Election Campaign Continues

LD0904033190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1840 GMT 8 Apr 90

[Text] Pula, Zagreb, Apr 8 (TANJUG)—Federal and democratic Yugoslavia as a community of equal nations and republics is still our chance and a political as well as economic concern, Ivica Racan, president of the Presidency of the League of Communists of Croatia—Party of Democratic Changes (LCC-PDC) told an election meeting in Pula today.

Speaking to several thousand people in what is one of the biggest centres in the Adriatic region of Istria, Racan pointed out that the separatist and unitarian forces in the country were disseminating fears in an attempt to discontinue the current reforms and the process of democratization.

Our party, said Racan, would not play with the fate of people and nations and it does not concede any reshaping of the borders of either Croatia or Yugoslavia. Unlike every extremism and adventurism, the LCC-PDC would go all lengths in its unconditional defence of democracy in the republic and in Yugoslavia, and it would strive for democrcy to emerge triumphant in the country as a whole, Racan said in conclusion.

Leaders of the Croatian Democratic Community (CDC), headed by their president Dr. Franjo Tudjman, swooped down on the common home of Yugoslavia at their election meeting of 200,000 people in Zagreb today.

With the slogans like "God and Croats: and "Croats get together" (used also in the days of Nazi puppet "Independent State of Croatia") they pledged for a free and sovereign state of Croatia.

"The pre-war kingdom of Yugoslavia was created by violence and [word indistinct] and for ourselves it had been a completely illegitimate state within which we were "occupied," said member of the CDC committee Sime Djodan. According to him, the Croats have been plundered in both pre-war and post-war Yugoslavia, and especially so since the "government of Premier Ante

Markovic has been trying to take away from Croatia the last dinar in order to financially rehabilitate the Belgrade street politics and the regime of Slobodan Milosevic in Serbia."

Dr. Franjo Tudjman, the CDC chief, introduced to the meeting as the "protagonist of national salvation," promised that in case he won the election he would "reopen the trials of Cardinal Alojzije Stepinec and former communist leader Andrija Hebrang (tried for collaboration with the "Ustashi" and would right away send out the invitation to Pope John Paul II to visit Croatia.

At the parliamentary elections in Croatia, called for April 22, the two major rivals are the LCC and the CDC.

Croatian Democratic Community Holds Meeting

LD0904030390 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1800 GMT 8 Apr 90

[Text] Zagreb, Apr 8 (TANJUG)—The Croatian Democratic Community (CDC) here today held its central election meeting in French Republic Square before 200,000 people.

The five-hour meeting presented the party's candidates for Croatian parliament and was addressed by its President Dr Franjo Tudjman whose speech was interrupted by frequent chanting and cheering.

Tudjman said that "this, strongest party in the history of the Croatian people will fight for free, sovereign and democratic Croatia where all those to whom Croatia is homeland will be equal." Next he said that the party wants nothing but to be its own on its own land, and, all who threaten even with armed force to stop us may know that we are soldiers too.

In calling the voters to give their confidence to the CDC other speakers also underlined it was high time for what they called the Communist and Bolshevik single-mindedness to give way to the genuine sovereignty and freedom in these areas.

In the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia, over 30 political parties have been registered to compete at the republic's first postwar multi-party elections on April 22.

Bosnian Trade Union Changes Name, Structure

AU0804193190 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian
3 Apr 90 p 3

[M. Lucic report: "Delegates Added to the Scenario"]

[Excerpt] Sarajevo—The eighth congress of the Trade Union of Bosnia-Hercegovina has ended in Sarajevo after working for three days instead of two. It will certainly be remembered for the fact that it was mainly the demands of the persistent delegates that succeeded and not what was thought up and presented by the old trade union leadership and longtime officials. This was also the reason why the congress was extended for a day, and it is yet to be seen what money will be used to pay for this.

The key decision made at the congress meant that the Trade Union of Bosnia-Hercegovina no longer exists, but an Alliance of Independent Trade Unions in the republic was set up. Of course, a name change does not mean that the trade union has automatically been reformed. Finally, a new council of independent trade unions was not completed either. Thirty-eight members were elected according to territory, but it was not possible to elect delegates according to industrial branches because the industrial trade union has yet to be set up and to specify its representatives. This means that the new trade union will be organized according to both principles, even though it did not pass unnoticed that most delegates on the rostrum were in favor of organizing according to industrial branches, believing that the workers' organization will thus best fight for interests in factories. Since all the posts in the new Council of Independent Trade Unions were not filled, this organization does not have a president at the moment.

A whole day was spent on elections at the congress because the delegates did not accept the scenario envisioned by the former republican trade union leadership. They were vehemently against the old leadership reforming the trade union. They categorically demanded that the membership have the final say. [passage omitted]

DELO Commentary on Milosevic, Army Support

AU1004190690 Ljubljana DELO in Slovene
31 Mar 90 p 2

[Danilo Slivnik commentary: "A Dress Rehearsal on Avala?"]

[Text] It is an old story that soldiers and generals carry out many orders poorly, and what they do of their own accord usually slips through their fingers. Something similar has been occurring in our Army in the past few months: It is getting more and more confused about the changes in the country and it tries almost by force to find a new general political "patron." Otherwise, it is not possible to understand some of its controversial acts, which have turned its "neutral" political doctrine completely upside down and have pushed its personnel literally into the embrace of Slobodan Milosevic, who has accepted its assistance—such as on Mount Avala on Wednesday—as "a matter of course."

If it all resembled very much the footage of old movie newsreels and the extensive, precisely shot scenes around such upmarket means of transportation as the Blue Train or perhaps the ship Galeb [both used by Tito], which to make the matters worse is now actually known across the oceans, this is of course just a matter of personal long memory. The fact is that the scenes on 28 March, when Slobodan Milosevic inspected a Yugoslav People's Army guard of honor on Mount Avala on the occasion of the

Serbian national day, were quite real and, judging by some outward signs, were in fact a sort of introduction to an act that may quickly turn into a dress rehearsal for the entire country, after which Yugoslavia could finally again get a "real president." At this moment we do not intend to speculate whether the Yugoslav People's Army leadership exactly thought out all the consequences of this ritual, but we cannot avoid a general statement that at least the leadership that heads the Yugoslav People's Army at present has taken sides and has chosen, from between the "two Yugoslav options," the one that is pronouncedly conservative, that promotes a strong authoritarian federal state, and that is in direct personal link with the Serbian politicians.

At this moment we also do not intend to ponder what this decision means for the overall outcome of the crisis enveloping Yugoslavia, and whether it essentially heralds a "leaden option" for the entire country, because many things in Yugoslav politics may rapidly change in the coming weeks, and this very approach may well lead to a rapid disintegration in the top military leadership itself, which at present is obviously in the hands of some ambitious, and not politically excessively gifted, generals and admirals. However, we must clearly draw attention to the fact that the movement toward a confederal state in Yugoslavia has considerably advanced. Serbia leads in this respect as regards acts committed (especially those of violence against others), and that precisely those who have long offered greatest resistance in principle—the soldiers—cooperate in this process to a considerable extent. This does not concern only what occurred between the Yugoslav People's Army and the Serbian politicians lately, or what Serbia set as its task in Kosovo three years ago and finally implemented in the past few days when it took over direct police administration of the province, but it also concerns the intensive bonds which we saw concluded in that part of the country in the past weeks and which confirm that Serbia and its allies are intensively preparing to establish their kind of order at least in one part of the country, if they fail to break through all over Yugoslav territory....

If we are precise, the Milosevic camp and the military leadership are essentially still playing two cards at the moment, because the logic that they constitute a kind of obvious "cohesive element of Yugoslavia" enables them to continue to force their concept on the entire state, while making preparations for their own confederalization. Of course this is pure disingenuousness and it is only due to the lack of skill of representatives from other republics that the former have not been completely unmasked in the federal institutions and that they retain so much room for maneuver in some important political affairs. Despite all the uncertainties and threats, the situation has been changing rapidly in many spheres, including yesterday's fiasco at the repeated attempt to renew the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY], because the representatives from Bosnia-Hercegovina finally also had to leave the Belgrade "integration" scene.

Thus, it is extremely uncertain to predict what will happen in the country after all this, but it need not necessarily be all black. The Serbian confederation option, in comparison with the option being generated in Slovenia and Croatia, contains a significant system fault despite everything, because it is built on pure leadership exclusivity and is not supported with legitimate elections—as the Slovene and Croatian options will be any minute now—quite apart from the fact that it is backed by the Army. Therefore it is no wonder that at least some soldiers are somewhat worried at the moment and that for instance Stane Brovet was quite white in his face and lacked any proper ideas at yesterday's session of the LCY Central Committee remnants, although he shone in the past few weeks with some quite super, clever statements, including the statement that the introduction of the one-kilometer border zone would help "Yugoslavia's prestige in Europe...."

Presidential Candidate Charged With Insulting Army

LD1104133490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1001 GMT 11 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, 11 April (TANJUG)—On 6 April the appropriate military organs filed a criminal offense charge with the appropriate public prosecutor's office in Maribor against the Demos United Slovene Opposition presidential candidate Dr Joze Pucnik on account of of a well-founded suspicion that he had committed a criminal offense of damaging the reputation of the SFRY under article 157 of the federal criminal code. This was stressed today by Colonel Vuk J. Obradovic, federal secretariat of national defense spokesman, during his press conference in the Yugoslav People's Army Club in Belgrade.

According to Obradovic, the criminal charge was filed because on the poster "Demos for a Slovene Army", signed by Pucnik, "he crudely insulted the Yugoslav People's Army, claiming, that the Army is incapable of defending our country against an outside enemy, that it is killing our children, that it is poisoning our economy and that is poses a threat to our freedom." The military organs, added the federal secretariat of national defense spokesman, will strictly comply with the constitution and the laws in every situation, regardless of the person involved.

Arkhipov Leads Soviet Army Delegation in Zagreb

LD1004220690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1334 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Zagreb, 10 Apr (TANJUG)—A Soviet Army delegation, led by Army General Vladimir Mikhaylovich Arkhipov, USSR deputy defense minister, arrived in Zagreb today. During the talks with representatives of the Croat Republican Committee for the Construction Industry and Housing and Local Affairs and representatives of several Zagreb firms, reference was made to the possibility of our construction workers building department stores, hospitals, rest homes, and the like for the requirements of the Soviet Army.

During the meeting emphasis was placed on the presence over a long period of time of Croat construction workers in the Soviet Union. They have built several hotels, hospitals, and other types of buildings which represent an importance reference for future arrangements.

SFRY-USSR Business, Trade Conference Opens

LD1104021390 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1624 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, April 10 (TANJUG)—President of the Yugoslav Chamber of Economy Milan Pavic on Tuesday opened the third Yugoslav-Soviet business conference, to be held over the next three days in Belgrade's Sava Centre.

The conference will be attended by some 100 Soviet and 350 domestic businessmen and representatives of the Yugoslav Government and the Belgrade-based Soviet Embassy.

Soviet Ambassador to Yugoslavia Vadim Petrovich Loginov said that Soviet firms are becoming independent and that in cooperation with Yugoslavia the state organs' former role should now be transferred to purely business-oriented institutions, such as banks, consortiums, chambers of economy and representative offices.

The Soviet ambassador underscored the importance of last year's halt of the stagnation and drop in mutual trade, the introduction of convertible payments starting from next year and the crucial role of businessmen in the economic cooperation in the next five-year period.

Yuriy Georgijevic Bulah, deputy-president of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which is the co-organizer of the conference together with its Yugoslav countepart, said that the Soviet Union also does not want to see the accumulation of the Yugoslav trade surplus, which amounted to one billion 600 million dollars at the beginning of the year.

Bulah said that a possible solution lies in new business moves, such as joint production, investment building (especially of gas lines in Yugoslavia), the foundation of joint firms in both countries.

Bulah recalled that the number of joint firms have gone up to twenty in the Soviet Union and two in Yugoslavia, with a total founding capital of 160 million dollars. He announced the setting up of enterpreneurship zones in the Soviet Union as a special opportunity for cooperation between the two countries.

Yugoslav-Soviet 1989 trade, totalling 5.9 billion dollars, halted the previous three-year drop.

Under this year's trade protocol, Yugoslav-Soviet trade should reach 6.4 billion dollars.

The Soviet Union remains Yugoslavia's major trade partner, while this country is its tenth foreign partner.

The Soviet businessmen will over the next three days conduct talks with their Yugoslav counterparts and visit a number of Yugoslav firms both in Belgrade and other parts of the country.

Korosec's Appointment as Ambassador Viewed

AU0804193890 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 3 Apr 90 p 2

[Momcilo Djorgovic commentary: "After the Deluge—Ambassador"]

[Text] Whenever I used to see Stefan Korosec, former secretary of the federal League of Communists [LC], I would be considerably encouraged. This man with ruddy cheeks and a strong build who had to use oil to tame his thick hair, had a healthy effect on a sick party. He was totally incompatible with the official gray environment, and whenever he chaired a plenum it always seemed as if his place was being occupied by a very refreshed American baseball player or a swimming champion who had just been practicing. He gave the impression of a healthy force in the party debris—caught up in the winds of division—that could be counted on and that still seems to exist in the veins of the decrepit and once vanguard party.

In the whole of this political jostling, while the LC experienced self-defeat at one session after another, while it was inevitably falling apart, and while intrigues, hatreds, lies, deceits, and pseudo-principles were coming to the surface and many members of the LC agreed to play the role of the Trojan horse and pawns directed by national interests, in the whole of this discordant choir, Korosec found a more or less—or it seemed so at the time—articulate note, which distanced him to a certain extent from the general cacophony.

His certainly shining moment came in the transition between 1988 and 1989, when he announced the European orientation of the party and the country and caused considerable surprise among both the best-informed political commentators and the wily. This announcement had the effect of a bolt from the blue all the more so because it came immediately after the Belgrade summit of the nonaligned, the whole parade of Asian and African bigwigs. The public had still not yet recovered from stories of al-Qadhdhafi's extravagance and the powerful impression of confirmed, inseparable friendship—which was symbolized by the Jamahiriyah's holy camels being given to Belgrade's dilapidated zoo—when Belgrade suddenly decided to sail with these camels into Brussels, no less.

While the Yugoslav public could still not believe its ears and was reminding itself what the EEC was, Korosec even more clearly confirmed this at a news conference for foreign journalists. At this point he received the sympathies of those whom he had irritated with what they thought of as his peasant ruddiness. However, since then, one has slowly been losing track of Korosec, the uproar in the LC has been increasing, and according to the unnatural Yugoslav course of events, one could not expect him to do anything else but follow the dictates of his republic. He could proclaim a European but not a Yugoslav orientation for the party and the country. It could still be heard from time to time that he was preparing to become ambassador to the United States and that nothing else interested him.

From the moment the extraordinary congress of the LC failed, there was no longer even a secretary in the Central Committee Presidium. Korosec rode off with his Slovene comrades into the state, no longer intending to return to his regular job in the League of Communists Yugoslav [LCY]. This was followed by calls to return, appeals, threats, unpleasant inquiries about his pay, and public accusations, but not a word was heard from Korosec.

And somehow, at the same time, when the committee of the LC in the federation was calling him to account, the information was released that he had been appointed the Yugoslav federation's ambassador to Portugal.

Stefan Korosec has succeeded where Marko Orlandic and Josip Vrhovec failed. There has probably never been so many members of a new Yugoslav leadership who have attempted to go abroad under the guise of diplomacy. Big shots were more or less graciously either ousted or put on the cadre merry-go-round, but it never occurred to anyone to openly want to leave the paradise of socialist self- management (and to achieve this). This would then look like desertion at the moment when the country is "painstakingly being constructed."

The crisis, an absence of authority, a divided country, chaos, and nonexistent public control have obviously been very convenient for individuals in the highest party and state bodies to unscrupulously design their own destinies the way they want to. Despite his personal qualities, Stefan Korosec was a participant in the disintegration of the party and therefore the state, and it is paradoxical that he is being rewarded at a time when the party is neither flying high nor is on the ground, but is helplessly dangling in the air. It is paradoxical that a man who is being called to account by the Committee of the LC in the federation should be appointed ambassador. Prior to this, he ended his term of office of his own accord, not waiting for the leadership of this party (that means him) to account for itself in everything that it did or did not do during its term of office. Or perhaps this grotesque situation should be understood as the final separation of the state and party. However, Korosec is being sent to an ambassadorial post by the federal state even though at the end of his party career he took an unconditional stand in favor of one of many particularist Yugoslav interests. So how then can he represent Yugoslavia as a whole?

Surprise was also definitely caused by the ambassadorial destination of the itinerant LCY Central Committee secretary. Portugal? What does such a senior official want to do in Portugal? Exactly why did Vrhovec want to go to Finland? Does Yugoslavia have such rich bilateral relations with these countries that it has to send its best cadres there, or perhaps these places are just pleasant diplomatic resorts where officials can genteelly wait to go into (un)deserved retirement. In fact, perhaps it is better to send these unsuccessful leaders—once they cannot be ignored—to the diplomatic provinces. What would they make of the diplomatic centers with these abilities of theirs?

Novi Sad TV Editors Suspended Over Editorial

LD1004163190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1459 GMT 10 Apr 90

[Text] Novi Sad, 10 April (TANJUG)—On the basis of the powers vested in him by the statute of this information house, Miodrag Koprivica, Novi Sad television director, has decided to suspend the editors of the TV Daily Newsreel on 8 April for which Novi Sad TV was responsible to the Yugoslav TV Network on that day.

The editors who have been suspended are Doda Toth-Isakov and Biljana Vorkapic, and the action was taken because of the editorial mistake they made when transmitting a contribution on the 175th anniversary of the second Serb uprising [against the Turks] for which a place was found in the TV newsreel near the end after other daily events were assessed as having been of lesser importance.

The Novi Sad TV director also raised the question of the responsibility of Petar Petrovic, chief and responsible editor of the Novi Sad TV current affairs program broadcast in the Serbo-Croat language.

Television Centers Agree on Satellite Channel

AU1004094990 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 4 Apr 90 p 4

[E. Ciric report: "Unification—Via Satellite"]

[Excerpt] Belgrade—The television viewers in Yugoslavia will finally get a nationwide Yugoslav channel. This is at least what the Program Committee of the Yugoslav Radio and Television stated at its session yesterday when the directors of all eight television centers accepted the initiative of the federal government to establish a joint "Yugoslavia Television" whose programs would be transmitted via a leased satellite channel and which could be seen throughout Europe. This Yugoslav satellite channel would be financed with the funds provided by the Federal Executive Council (51 percent) and the Yugoslav Radio and Television (49 percent), through a joint stock company.

The main requirement of the Federal Executive Council is that this channel is a nationwide Yugoslav channel and that its programs are prepared by a permanent professional team whose editorial board would be attached to the Yugoslav Radio and Television and would exclusively be responsible for the programs that would be shown on that channel. [passage omitted]

Association of Professional Journalists Founded

LD0804024190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1852 GMT 7 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, Apr 7 (TANJUG)—In Belgrade today, the Yugoslav Association of Professional Journalists was founded as the first organization of newsmen outside the existing "official" Federation of Journalists of Yugoslavia.

The founding assembly was attended only by a fairly small number, or slightly over 100 out of around 500 journalists from editorial offices across the country who had signed the initiative for founding their association under the name "work, knowledge and responsibility."

Early February in Belgrade, a meeting of the signatories was held at which also formed was an initiative board entrusted with preparing the founding assembly, statute and code of conduct of the association.

The new association is not under patronage of any political organizations. This substantially distinguishes it from the official journalists' federation.

New Newspaper Published in Ljubljana

LD0804094390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1233 GMT 7 Apr 90

[Summary] Ljubljana, 7 Apr (TANJUG)—The first issue of the new tabloid DELO PLUS appeared in Ljubljana today. Editor in chief Tine Guzej says that despite its tabloid form, it is not going to be a gossip newspaper.

DEMOKRATIJA DANAS Published

LD0704034790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1529 GMT 6 Apr 90

[Text] Belgrade, April 6 (TANJUG)—"We are for Yugoslavia and not for the small banana republics such as Slovenes, and Serbs, and Croats, and Macedonians, and others advocate," editor-in-chief of DEMOKRATIJA DANAS (DEMOCRACY TODAY) Zoran Gavrilovic said on Friday, presenting the paper at Belgrade's Press Centre. He did not specify what members of the nations mentioned were involved.

DEMOKRATIJA DANAS was described by its authors, Professor Zoran Gavrilovic, Dr Dragan Veselinov and Milutin Bogosavljevic, as an independent collection of writings on politics and culture, "a democratic, Yugoslav, non-party paper which advocates democracy,...an organ of words and ideas, and not a paper of any political party."

The paper consciously renounces all participation in power struggle, the authors said. Professor Gavrilovic claimed that all political parties in Yugoslavia were much involved in that struggle, which "is both very strenuous and dangerous on this soil." He called on all persons substantially committed to Yugoslavianism and European orientation to send their contributions.

DEMOKRATIJA DANA is a non-institutional paper which seeks to prove that Yugoslavia is not a mere word and that it has many intellectual forces to confirm this, said Dr Veselinov.

The paper appeared on news-stands today in 6,000 copies.

AIDS Cases, Deaths Noted in Serbia

LD0704033590 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1420 GMT 6 Apr 90

[Summary] Belgrade, 6 April (TANJUG)—An analysis of the AIDS situation in Serbia was discussed today at a session of the section for health and social policy of the Serbian Socialist Alliance of Working People Republican Conference. Nearly half of Yugoslavia's 120 AIDS cases registered so far are in Belgrade. In the 1985-89 period, in Serbia proper, 59 people contracted AIDS, and 35 of them died. In the same period, four died in Vojvodina and one in Kosovo.